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### Spring into reading!

April 2024

Welcome to Imagination Library RVA's monthly e-newsletter. Below, you will find helpful information designed to keep you informed and connected to our community's ongoing work to promote literacy.

We are thrilled to have you as part of our growing family of readers!

You can also visit us at [www.imaginationlibraryrva.org](http://www.imaginationlibraryrva.org)



### Always Say Yes to Rereading a Book!

Your April 2024 reading tip



You may ask yourself, "Why does my child want to read the same story again and again?"

Children crave familiarity and repetition helps them know they're safe. Children are also learning all the time, constantly testing their new understanding of things. This is familiarity at its core. This is how I open the fridge. This is how I get in your lap. This is how this story goes.

So when your child wants to read your newest DPIL story one more time— Always Say Yes! You're helping your child confirm their understanding of their world.

A world that's expanded just a little more every time you're able to add a new story.

### Upcoming Community Partner Events

- April 2**
  - Tutus & Ties on Tuesdays, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 2:00 - 2:30pm, \$
- April 4**
  - Bilingual Storytime French, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 10:30 - 11:00am, free with museum admission
- April 9**
  - Baby Artsplay! Drop-In Session, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 3:30 - 4:00pm, free
  - Flying Squirrels Opening Night 2024, The Diamond, 5:00 - 10:00pm, \$
- April 13**
  - \$10 Days at the Science Museum of Virginia, 9:30 - 5:00pm, \$
- April 14**
  - Flying Squirrels - Nutsasha's Birthday Party, all day, kids 14 and younger get in free
- April 16**
  - Baby Artsplay! Drop-In Session, Main Library, 10:30 - 11:00am, free
- April 20**
  - Kindergarten Readiness with CMoR, Broad Street location, 10:00am - 12:00pm, free
- April 27**
  - Kindergarten Readiness with CMoR, Manchester YMCA, 10:00am - 12:00pm, free
- April 28**
  - Richmond Flying Squirrels - Kids T-Shirt Giveaway, The Diamond, 12:30 - 5:00pm, kids 14 and younger get in free

Have a community event you would like us to include? [### Imagination Library RVA News](mailto:Email us!</a></p></div>
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#### Get Ready to Romp and Read with Imagination Library RVA!

In early March, we met with 12 of our community partners that are particularly interested in community engagement to plan a literacy event that will occur on June 2nd. The event is called "The Richmond Romp and Read Literacy Fair." It will take place in Bellemeade Park, where we - with the support of our community partners- hope to inform and energize the surrounding communities about literacy. We will have games, crafts, storytimes, music, and we're working on having local farms come to provide nutritious food for the event. Imagination Library RVA will be there to sign up families and our partners will be present to show all the ways they support families in literacy, and beyond.

### Partner Spotlight



**1014-1015 Preschool & Kindergarten Enrollment**

Enroll Your 5-Year-Olds in Kindergarten and Apply for Preschool for Your 3 and 4-Year Olds!

Go to [attendrvschools.com](http://attendrvschools.com) to enroll

**Inscripciones para Preescolar y Kinder 1014-1015**

¡Inscríbete a los hijos de 5 años en el kínder y presénte te al kínder para preescolar para tus hijos de 3 y 4 años!

Visita [attendrvschools.com](http://attendrvschools.com) para inscribirte

Click the images above to enlarge.

- RPS Preschool Registration Events at the Courts**
- April 16 - Whitcomb Court, 12 - 3pm
  - April 17 - Moby Court, 12 - 3pm
  - April 18 - Oakes Court, 12 - 3pm
  - April 19 - Hillside Court, 12 - 3pm
  - April 22 - Creighton Court, 12 - 3pm
  - April 23 - Fairfield Court, 12 - 3pm



RPS offers an exceptional preschool program for eligible 3- and 4-year-olds. This program empowers young learners with essential skills in math, literacy, science, and social-emotional development, providing a solid foundation for success in Kindergarten and beyond.

They extend a warm welcome to all 5-year-olds living in the City of Richmond to join them for Kindergarten, setting the stage for a journey filled with growth and discovery. While preschool application acceptance is determined by eligibility, Kindergarten enrollment is open to every child in Richmond who will turn 5 years old on or before September 30th, 2023.

Families can go to [attendrvschools.com](http://attendrvschools.com) to enroll and visit [rvschools.net/preschool](http://rvschools.net/preschool) for more information about the preschool program.

### Sign Up for Free Developmental Screenings

Sign up for a 30-minute slot for developmental screening at the Children's Museum of Richmond for any child between the ages of 3 and 5.

Only one ticket is needed per family. Parents will complete a developmental questionnaire while your child is engaged in fine motor activities with a VCU Occupational Therapy student to screen for school readiness. A Resource Guide and recommendations will be available. Registration is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome!

While this is a free event for the community, museum admission is not included.

**FREE DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS at CMoR**

Virginia Commonwealth University Occupational Therapy students and faculty will be at the Children's Museum of Richmond to provide developmental screenings and information about Kindergarten Readiness.

**How does it work?**

The developmental screening will include questionnaires for parents and fun fine motor activities for the child. Screening results and resources will be provided to participating families.

**Tuesday, April 16 1pm-5pm**  
CMoR Downtown  
2626 West Broad St  
Richmond, VA 23298

**Tuesday, April 23 1pm-5pm**  
CMoR Downtown  
2626 West Broad St  
Richmond, VA 23298

Registration is recommended. Please text or call to register.

VCU Occupational Therapy  
Children's Museum

### We Love Our Local Libraries!

Is your reader eager to get their hands on more books? Visit your local library! Sign up for a library card to keep the reading momentum!

Happy Earth Day! Earth Day is April 22, and Richmond Public Library is ready to help you celebrate. You can find books about conservation, gardening, plants, and animals – all for FREE at your local branch. Friendly librarians, like Sarah Fenninger at Main Library, are ready to help you find a big stack of books for every member of your family.



Free seeds at the library? Yes! Here's a picture of the seed library at the Main Library on Franklin Street.



Interested in the Earth Day books featured by Sarah in the video? [Here are the titles and authors](#) – you can look for them when you go to your branch!

### Help Your Child Follow Along as You Read Aloud This Month!

Your April 2024 "Focus on the Basics" Tip



Help Them Follow Along As you are reading, try pointing at the words and pictures, and talk about the colors and shapes that appear on the page. Have your child use their finger to track the words as they are read to nurture their comprehension skills. For children that are older, you can ask them questions about what the characters are doing and encourage them to make predictions about what might happen next.

Visit this principle from the Basics [here](#). To learn more about how you can Read and Discuss Stories, [click here](#).

Early childhood organizations all around the City of Richmond have joined The Basics movement, a strategy for whole communities to support vibrant learning and brain development among infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Fun, simple, and powerful, starting at birth, The Basics are five science-based parenting and caregiving principles that support social, emotional, and cognitive development. Each month Read to Them will highlight tips and strategies that will assist you in creating a sturdy foundation for school readiness for our youngest citizens.

Current Number of RVA Readers...

**Celebrating 2,726 Sign-ups!**

Sign up your child ages 0-5 living in the City of Richmond for FREE BOOKS through the mail today!

As Dolly says, "You can never get enough books into the hands of enough children!"

Brought to you by **Read to Them**  
[readtothem.org](http://readtothem.org)

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