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## Happy New Year!

January 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)



### Play Sherlock Holmes

Your January 2024 reading tip

Use the illustrations. Ask your child to identify or locate stuff in the pictures. Colors. Objects. Animals. Things they can count.

"Can you find the 3 red flowers?"

This makes reading together fun and interactive.

### Upcoming Community Partner Events

- Jan. 3**
  - Creative Crafternoon, Ettrick-Matoaca Library, 1:00 - 3:00pm, free
  - Celebrate Chinese New Year, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 2:00 - 3:00pm, \$
- Jan. 4**
  - Playhouse Bilingual Story Time, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 10:30 - 11:00am, free with museum admission
- Jan. 5**
  - Bird Feeding Bouquet, Deep Run Park Recreation Center, 10:00am - 2:00pm, free
  - Bilingual Storytime, Children's Museum of Richmond Chesterfield, 1:00pm - 1:30pm, free with museum admission
- Jan. 8**
  - Movie Monday, Powhatan County Library, 11:00am - 1:00pm, free
- Jan. 10**
  - Homeschool Hour, Clover Hill Library, 1:00 - 2:00pm, free but must register in advance
- Jan. 11**
  - PJ Story Time, Powhatan County Library, 6:00 - 6:30pm, free
- Jan. 17**
  - Science Museum of Virginia \$10 Days, Science Museum of Virginia, \$
- Jan. 19**
  - Winnie the Pooh Party, Deep Run Park Recreation Center, 10:00am - 12:00pm, free
- Jan. 26**
  - Little Critters Art, Deep Run Park Recreation Center, 10:00 - 11:00am, free
  - There's a Bear on My Chair!, Meadow Farm, 10:30 - 11:30am, free
  - PUP READers, Clover Hill Library, 4:30 - 6:30pm, free but must register in advance

Have a community event you would like us to include? [Email us!](#)

### Imagination Library RVA News



During the holiday season, Imagination Library RVA was out and about in the Richmond community spreading winter cheer—and a love for literacy! We had the opportunity to spend time at numerous events across the city, including: Supper with Santa at the Children's Museum, the Dominion Energy Christmas Parade, the Holiday Parade at the Friends Association for Children at Gilpin Court as well as the Literacy Night at Lois-Harrison Jones Elementary and the Christmas Party for Teen Moms at Urban Baby Beginnings. We cannot thank our community partners enough for their generosity and for inviting us to share our message and helping us get books in the hands of children.

Thanks to this outpouring of interest, children have continued to be registered for Imagination Library RVA throughout the holidays. We are so looking forward to announcing further activities and events in 2024!

### Partner Spotlight



#### Family Lifeline

Since our founding in 1877, Family Lifeline has flourished for more than a century because we are responsive to the changing needs of those we serve.

Family Lifeline's Growing Well programming supports parents through the prenatal period and the first five years of a child's life, empowering confident, connected parents, and healthy, school-ready kids. Our Breathe Easy program partners with families in their homes to ensure that children with asthma have the support and resources they need to grow up healthy. For Growing Well and Breathe Easy referrals and inquiries, please contact [referrals@familylifeline.org](mailto:referrals@familylifeline.org)

Family Lifeline's Living Well programming for older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers strives to help individuals remain living well in community settings of their choosing where they feel safe, connected, healthy, and engaged. From the youngest baby to the oldest adult, we create positive change that is meaningful, measurable, and sustainable. For Living Well referrals and inquiries, please contact [ewhitaker@familylifeline.org](mailto:ewhitaker@familylifeline.org)

### 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!



**Baby Artsplay!™ at Richmond Public Library and other locations in the city!**

Baby Artsplay!™ is a free program for children ages 3 months to 36 months, and their caregivers.

Teaching artists from Greater Richmond Wolf Trap will show you how to use music, drama, and movement to boost learning and development.

The classes are free and offered at various locations around Richmond.

There is a drop-in program at the [Main Library](#) on Franklin Street on selected Tuesdays:

- January 16
- February 20
- March 19
- April 16
- May 21

Five-week winter sessions will be starting at the [Westover Hills](#) branch (on January 26) and the [Belmont](#) branch (on February 26). Pre-register for those sessions [here](#).

Beyond the library, Baby Artsplay!™ is also available as a drop-in program at [The Children's Museum of Richmond](#) and a pre-registered session at the [Pine Camp Cultural Arts Center](#). Click [here](#) to find the dates and registration information for those sessions.

### Look for opportunities to be silly and have fun when you read this month!

Your January 2024 "Focus on the Basics" Tip

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.

This month, we are focusing on the value of Talking, Singing, and Pointing.

*Be Silly & Have Fun!*

Being silly and having fun while reading with your child is an incredible way to nurture imagination and a love for books. Encourage your child to share their thoughts about the story. Singing along to rhymes and pointing at pictures in the book further enhance this experience, making it a joyful and interactive activity for both of you.

To learn more about Talk, Sing, Point, click [here](#).

### Current Number of RVA Readers...



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!"

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