

# FYI: Free Your Imagination

A Quarterly Newsletter for Imagination Library Families

## THIS ISSUE:

Our Message to You!

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How to Use Parent  
Suggestions

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Imagination Library

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Community Events



## A MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT



Making a daily routine of family reading has great payoff for everyone involved. Many families find that time away from the distractions of TV and electronics to wind down and get ready for bed is a perfect time to read and reread both new and favorite books. Older siblings can listen in and take over reading to younger ones on nights when parents or caregivers run out of time. Doing so not only helps young learners come to love and look forward to family time with books, but older siblings gain more confidence and practice as readers themselves. Now that's a win-win for the whole family!

-**Terry Atkinson**, Executive Director, Early Literacy Coalition of Eastern NC

## PARENTS: Reading is the Gateway to Lifelong Learning

An abundance of books that are readily available to children in the home is one of the clearest predictors of school success. **Reading** and **discussing** one or more **books** with children **every day** is a great way to help them learn about print, books and the enjoyment of reading, even if they are learning to read at school!

Source: <http://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>



Register TODAY at [www.imaginationlibrary.com](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com) and help your child (age birth-5) open the gateway to lifelong learning.

# The Facts About the Flaps!

When your child is between ages 2-3, their Imagination Library books will begin to have a book flap attached inside the back cover.

These book flaps are designed to provide parents with suggestions of activities to try or questions to ask while reading. Below are some sample questions for a book about butterflies.



## Before You Read:

Ask what your child notices about the cover picture of a butterfly. Mention what you see, like colors, patterns, and body parts (such as wings and antennas).

## While Reading:

Talk about the pictures with questions and comments like, "Why do you think the butterfly is landing?" or "I've never seen so many butterflies in one tree."

Encourage your child to ask questions and then discuss possible answers.

## After Reading:

Talk about the seasons that were mentioned in the book and ask questions like, "Where do butterflies go in the winter?"



## Learning on the Go:

Visit parks, roadsides, or nature centers and look for milkweed, caterpillars, or butterflies. Use the words from this book to talk about them. Then visit the library and look for other butterfly books to read there or check out to take home and enjoy.



Many parents don't even know these flaps exist! Dolly Parton added them to her books so that every parent or caregiver has the ability to read aloud and engage with their child.

By using the ideas listed on the flap, you can further engage with your child. This will help them improve their literacy and comprehension skills, and encourage them to view reading as a special time with you.

## READING TIPS

### New Book?

- ★ The first time you read a new book, sit with your child and read it together for as long as your child's attention allows.
- ★ Have fun and enjoy sharing a story with your child.

### Re-Reading?

- Use some of the activity ideas below.
- Don't try to include every activity each time you read...still enjoy the story!

### Limited on time?

- ▶ Read street signs while you and your child are in the car or on the bus!

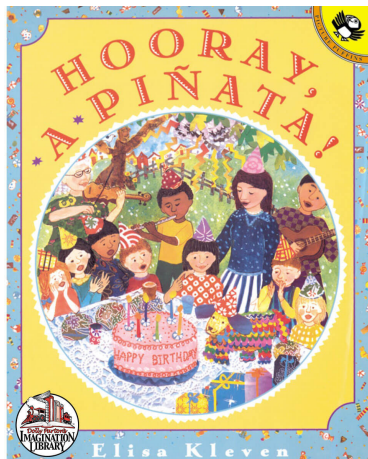
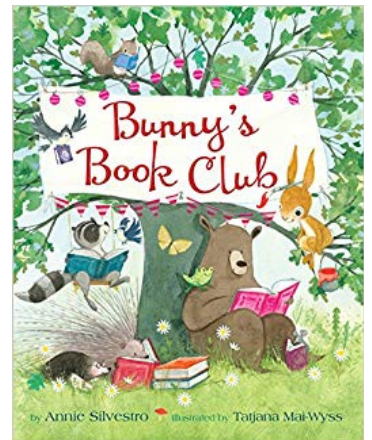
Check out the suggestions in the back of your Imagination Library books!

## FEATURED BOOKS OF THE MONTH:

Join Bunny on a sneaky trip to the library in this book that celebrates the joy of reading!

Engage your child by asking them about the different animals that appear in the story.

When Bunny climbs in the book drop, ask your child what they think will happen next!



Enjoy this colorful and lively birthday story that encourages imagination!

Spend time talking with your child about the warm and lively pictures in the story.

If your child does not know what a piñata is, teach them this new word!

After reading, try to make your own piñata, or another craft requiring imagination.

# PARENT TESTIMONIAL

"Imagination Library has not only impacted my son, Will, but our entire family. Our family eagerly awaits the arrival of our new book, and we always spend time reading and chatting about each book multiple times. We enjoy reading to each other, and Will especially loves it when my daughters read to him.



*Jake at Gymnastics* was a text all three of my children connected with. The girls are gymnasts and Will loves to be active. This text, as well as many others, have initiated lots of great book discussions in our home."

-Tanya Cannon, parent of Will who is currently receiving Imagination Library books

**Want to be featured here? Email: [atkinsont@ecu.edu](mailto:atkinsont@ecu.edu)!**



Click the links below to find upcoming literacy opportunities in your community!

**Sheppard Memorial, G.W. Carver, East, & Winterville Libraries:**

[http://www.sheppardlibrary.org/childrens\\_library](http://www.sheppardlibrary.org/childrens_library)

**Martin County Libraries:** <https://bhmlib.org/events/>

**Farmville Public Library:** <http://farmvillelibrary.org>

**Barnes & Noble, Greenville:**

<https://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2775>

**Martin-Pitt Partnership for Children:**

<http://www.mppfc.org/about-us/events/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/mppfc/events/>

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*With special thanks to:*

United Way of Pitt County	East Carolina University
Martin-Pitt Partnership for Children	Smith Family Foundation
The State of North Carolina	Vidant Health
Read ENC Community literacy Coalition	



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