

FYI: Free Your Imagination

A Quarterly Newsletter for Imagination Library Families

THIS ISSUE:

A Message from Dolly!

Imagination Library Live
Events

Learning at Home

Using Screens to Learn



A MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

The Book Lady has a new weekly storytime series called "Goodnight with Dolly"

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is excited to present Dolly Parton's new weekly read-aloud video series called "Goodnight with Dolly." The 10-week series, which began on April 2, 2020, focuses on comforting and reassuring children during this time of shelter-in-place. Dolly hopes these videos will provide a welcomed distraction and also inspire a love of reading and books in the hearts of children. Mark your calendars and tune in to "Goodnight with Dolly" each Thursday at 7 PM for an exciting new story!

"I think it is pretty clear that now is the time to share a story and to share some love. It is an honor for me to share the incredible talent of these authors and illustrators. They make us smile, they make us laugh and they make us think." (Dolly Parton, Imagination Library Website,

<https://imaginationlibrary.com/goodnight-with-dolly-read-aloud/>)

You can find out what Dolly will be reading next and catch up on any read alouds you have missed on the **Imagination Library** website. You'll also find **Activity Sheets** and **Parent Reading Tips** to go along with each Imagination Library book that she reads!

<https://imaginationlibrary.com/goodnight-with-dolly/>

Reading and rereading your **Imagination Library** books is a great way to help your child become a reader, but there are lots of other things you can do as well. Here are some fun and simple ideas you can try at home.

Learn the letters of the alphabet. Learning the ABC's is an important step in learning to read and write. To help your child learn the letters of the alphabet:



- Write the letters out on a piece of paper or use magnetic letters on the refrigerator.
- Sing the ABC Song while pointing to the letters.
- Name letters you see on cereal boxes, games or books - try having a Letter Hunt for special letters, like those in your child's name!



Play with the sounds in words. Understanding that words are made up of sounds is another important step in becoming a reader, and singing songs is a great way to help your child notice the sounds in words!

- Sing songs with lots of rhyming words, like Down by the Bay, then make up your own silly verses with more words that rhyme!
- Take the rhyming outside by teaching your child some jump rope rhymes.
- Play with names or other words by changing the beginning sounds: silly, willy, nilly, dilly. They don't have to be real words - just have fun with it!
- Talk like a robot and see if your child can guess what you're saying: "Can you turn off the tel-e-vi-sion?" Let your child try it, too!

Encourage writing. Writing is an important way to help children learn how **letters and sounds** work together.



- Have paper and pencils or markers available around the house and encourage your child to write notes, make labels for things, or help you with a shopping list.
- Don't expect correct spelling, but provide help if your child asks for it.

Digital Literacy Learning Ideas for Preschool Children

Click on each title to learn more about each one!

[Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood](#)

Click on "stories" for an interactive library of stories read by Daniel Tiger. Also check out the Daniel Tiger's Storybook App.

[ABCya](#)

Learning games and apps. Explore the "letters" games.



[Molly of Denali](#)

Explore nature, fish for salmon, go dog sledding or help run the Denali

Trading Post in Molly's Alaskan village. These games support foundational literacy skills. Also check out the app!

[Clifford The Big Red Dog](#)

Adventure stories, games, videos, and activities.

[Vroom](#)

This app provides daily ideas for making everyday moments into brain building opportunities for preschoolers.

[Pete the Cat](#)

Check out the TV show about this famous book character on Amazon.



[Audible](#)

Audible is providing free audiobooks for kids while school is canceled. Click on "littlest listeners" to find books appropriate for preschool.



[Healthy at Home](#)

Ready Rosie: A toolkit for supporting families impacted by COVID-19.



[Super Why](#)

Interactive website and TV show focused on learning key reading skills, the alphabet, rhyming, etc.

[Sesame Street](#)

Watch episodes, play games, do art. Also check out the [Elmo Loves ABCs \(Lite\) App](#)

[Unite for Literacy Digital Books and Read Alouds](#)

More than 400 original digital picture books in a variety of subject areas in more than 40 languages.

[Storyline Online Read Alouds](#)

Stories read aloud by famous people. We Recommend: [Harry the Dirty Dog read by Betty White](#).



[Storytime From Space](#)

Listen to books read aloud from space by astronauts. We recommend: [Rosie Revere, Engineer](#)

PARENT TESTIMONIAL



“Reading is so important to us because, there was a time not too terribly long ago when we as people (African Americans) were not permitted to read. And now that we can take advantage, we find that there is a whole new world to explore. We can travel the world, we experience things we never dreamed of, we can learn to do things we didn't know were possible. Our hope is that reading to and allowing Ty'Quan to read to us will instill in him a greater desire to read, that will last him a lifetime even unto his own children”

-Pastor Melvin and Linda Corey, Ty'Quan's Grandparents

If you have a child who is not enrolled in Imagination Library or know a child who is not enrolled, ENROLL them now at

<https://www.smartstart.org/dolly-partons-imagination-library!>



Click the links below to find local online literacy resources you can access at home!

Sheppard Memorial Library:

http://www.sheppardlibrary.org/childrens_library

Click on the "online resources" and "free digital picture book" tabs across the top. Also access SML's Children's Library Facebook page for live storytime broadcasts at:

<https://www.facebook.com/sheppardchildrens/>



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

Scroll down and click on the icons to access a number of online resources.

READ ENC Community Literacy Coalition:

<https://readenc.org/home-resources/>

Online home resources for parents & caregivers, including literacy and more!

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Website: <http://www.mppfc.org/>