

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register my child for Imagination Library?

In order to sign your child up to receive books from Imagination Library, you must complete the registration form which is located on the back of the Imagination Library brochures or online at www.smartstart.org/dpil. You can find Imagination Library brochures at Dare County Libraries, Surf Pediatrics & Medicine, the Dare County Department of Public Health, or Children & Youth Partnership. You can also contact Carla Heppert at (252)441-0614 or cheppert@darekids.org to receive a brochure by mail.



Can I sign up online?

Yes! To register your child online for Imagination Library in Dare County, visit: www.smartstart.org/dpil.

How much does it cost to sign up?

Imagination Library books are completely **FREE** to enrolled children ages birth-5, although donations are always welcomed.



How can I change my address if my family moves?

If you move within Dare County, you **must** change your address with Children & Youth Partnership in order for your child to continue receiving their books. These books cannot be forwarded, even with a Change of Address in place at the post office. To make this change, please contact the Children & Youth Partnership office as soon as possible. It takes 1-2 months for an address change to go into effect, so it's important that we know about a move as soon as possible for your child's books to be uninterrupted.

Why did my child not get their book this month?

If your child did not receive their book this month, it could be for several reasons. Because some of the younger books have hard covers, they may not be able to fit into your post office/mail box. If this is the case, the post office will put a yellow package slip into your box and will hold your book for you to pick up at the postal service desk. If you have recently moved, it's important that you contact Children & Youth Partnership to report your address change. Also, after a child is input into our system, it takes 6-8 weeks for that child to receive their first book.



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Can more than one child in each family receive the books?

Yes! All children ages birth-five in Dare County are eligible to enroll.

I am pregnant, can I register my unborn baby?

Because we will need to know the exact birth date of your child (to ensure age-appropriate books), it's important to wait until after your child is born to enroll them in the program.

Are all the books the same for each child?

Children who are in Imagination Library receive a different book each month they are enrolled. The first and last book a child receives are always the same ("The Little Engine that Could" and "Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come") However, the other books that your child receives are intended to be age-appropriate for your child's specific age. For example, if your child was born in 2018, he/she will receive the same book in July as all of the other children who were born in 2018. If you have multiple children who go through the program, there will likely be some duplicate books throughout the 5 year period they are enrolled, but you will also receive quite a few new ones for your family to enjoy.

Who selects the Imagination Library books?

Children & Youth Partnership does not select the books that are provided through Imagination Library. The Dollywood Foundation has pulled together a Library Committee that consists of several early literacy specialists. This is the group that decides which books are provided through Imagination Library each year.

Where can I donate books our family has outgrown?

We encourage you to donate the books that your family has outgrown to local schools, preschools, child care centers, doctor's offices, and businesses with waiting areas which children frequent. Please remember to black out your name and address on the mailing label before donating.

Want to Learn More?

Contact:

Carla Heppert, Education &
Program Evaluation Manager
cheppert@darekids.org
(252) 441-0614

Or Visit:

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