

Tell Us Your Story

We need to hear from families enrolled in the program!!!

The frequency with which children are exposed to books and literacy experiences has been shown to have a significant impact on later academic achievement (Roberts, Jurgens, & Burchinal, 2005). In fact:

- “Families, and parents in particular, play an important part in the [learning to read] process. For decades, research has shown ***that children whose parents read to them become better readers and do better in school.***”
- “Children who are ***read to frequently*** are nearly twice as likely as other children to show three or more skills associated with emerging literacy.”
- The essential point is that students should have easy ***access to a wide variety of books...***” (Becoming a Nation of Readers, U.S. Department of Education’s Commission on Reading, 1988)

Home Literacy Activities and Signs of Children’s Emerging Literacy, 1993 and 1999, and the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education, 2000:

Access to a wide variety of high quality books in the home, **IS** the goal of the Imagination Library. A poll conducted in 2009 by the Pearson Foundation revealed that 75% of the population is completely unaware that nearly 61% of low-income families do not have any age appropriate books in their homes. Some of those families in need of books are right here in Ionia County. It is important for our funders to know, how the program is making a difference for your child and family. For example, does your child have a favorite DPIL book, have you read the story so many times that your child can read it himself, has he learned some letters or numbers from being read the story or maybe does he now recognizes his name in print from seeing his book come in the mail?

Whatever your special moment might be, please take the time to share your story with us. We would like to pass it on to our generous community members that provide financial support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.