

*The **Imagination Library*** *in Okanogan County & Bridgeport*

The Imagination Library is a book gifting program that supports early literacy by mailing a free, age appropriate, high-quality book to registered children each month from birth until age 5. It was started over 20 years ago by musician Dolly Parton in honor of her father who was illiterate. The Imagination Library now mails well over 1 million books each month to registered children throughout the US, UK, Canada, Ireland, and Australia.

Early in 2019 **Okanogan County Child Development Association (OCCDA)** partnered with **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Foundation** to offer this amazing program locally, **mailing 5,190 books to 918 local children** in just the first 9 months! This program is free to all children ages birth to 5 living in Okanogan County & Bridgeport and is supported through donations from local individuals and businesses.

Program overview

- ◆ Registered children from birth to age 5 are ***mailed a free, high quality, age-appropriate book each month***
- ◆ Participation in the program is ***free for all children ages 0 to 5 years in Okanogan County & Bridgeport***
- ◆ Children ***sign up just one time*** and graduate from the program on their 5th birthday
- ◆ Books are mailed directly from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library organization
- ◆ The program is ***operated locally by OCCDA*** in partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Foundation
- ◆ Program funding and support is provided locally through ***generous community contributions***

Highlights

- ◆ Penguin Random House is the exclusive book publisher for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
- ◆ Books are selected by early childhood experts to be ***age appropriate*** and align with ***developmental needs***
- ◆ Custom inserts with guided ***activities endorsed by the United Way*** encourage interaction
- ◆ Two of the books received each year are ***Spanish/English bilingual publications***
- ◆ The first book received is ***The Little Engine That Could***; the last book is ***Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come***



For more information, please contact:

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