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### Greetings!

Welcome to Imagination Library RVA's monthly e-newsletter. Below, you will find helpful information designed to keep you informed and connected to our community's ongoing work to promote literacy.

We are thrilled to have you as part of our growing family of readers!

You can also visit us at [www.ImaginationLibraryRVA.org](http://www.ImaginationLibraryRVA.org)



### Bedtime is a great time, but it's not the only time!

*Your December 2023 reading tip*

Read together anytime: breakfast, at the park, even at bath time. Find a regular reading time that works for your family. Anytime works if you have a book!

### Upcoming Community Partner Events

- Dec. 2**  
Dominion Energy Christmas Parade, Science Museum of Virginia, 10:00 - 11:00am, free  
Christmas Village at First Baptist Church, Monument Ave, 11:00am - 2:00pm, free  
Bluey Dance Mode Party, Ashland Library, 1:00 - 2:30pm, free  
Annual Tree Lighting at Glen Allen Cultural Arts Center, 4:30 - 7:30pm, free
- Dec. 9**  
Gingerbread Houses, Goochland Library, 10:00 - 11:00am, free  
Santa Paws at Short Pump Mall, 10:00am - 1:00pm, free  
Gingerbread Houses, West End Library, 11:00am - 12:00pm, free
- Dec. 12**  
Baby Artplay, Children's Museum of Richmond Downtown, 3:30 - 4:00pm, free
- Dec. 15**  
Sensory Friendly Nights, Children's Museum of Richmond, Chesterfield, 5:00 - 7:00pm, free
- Dec. 19**  
Baby Artplay, Main Library, 3:00 - 3:30pm, free
- Dec. 27**  
Out of School Day Camps at Maymont, 9:00am - 3:00pm, \$
- Dec. 28**  
Out of School Day Camps at Maymont, 9:00am - 3:00pm, \$
- Dec. 29**  
Out of School Day Camps at Maymont, 9:00am - 3:00pm, \$
- Dec. 30**  
Noon Year's Eve Day Party, Atlee Library, 11:00am - 12:00pm, free

Have a community event you would like us to include? [Email us!](#)

### Imagination Library RVA News



Every year during the last week of October, [Read Aloud to a Child Week](#) is held to showcase the importance of reading aloud to children and to encourage families to read together. Read aloud events took place in preschools and child cares all week, all across the City of Richmond. Notable guest readers included NBC12 Meteorologist Andrew Freiden (pictured above) and Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Lisa Coons along with members of the Richmond City Council, United States Postal Service, city firefighters and police officers, and GRTC bus drivers and staff.

Imagination Library RVA was thrilled by the outpouring of support from the Richmond community. Thanks to this event, Imagination Library RVA reached the milestone of registering over 2,000 children to receive free books each month. We cannot thank our community partners and readers enough for their time, and look forward to next year's Read Aloud to a Child Week festivities!

### Partner Spotlight



#### Richmond Public Library

Is your reader eager to get their hands on more books? Visit your **local library!**

Sign up for a library card to keep the reading momentum!



The best way to keep the reading train rolling is to visit your local library.

Did you know that there are nine libraries in the [Richmond Public Library](#) system?

Richmond Public Libraries are fine-free - which means there are no fees for returning your materials late!

Visit your [local branch](#) and get [library cards](#) for the whole family.



Meet Beth Morris, Youth Services Coordinator for the Richmond Public Library and story time star at the Main Library on Franklin Street.

Beth Morris's suggested titles book list: <https://rvalibrary.org/kids/#NewBookLists>

### Look for moments of gratitude in the stories you share this month!

*Your December 2023 "Focus on the Basics" tip*

Early childhood organizations all around Metro Richmond have joined The Basics movement, a strategy for whole communities to support vibrant learning and brain development among infants, toddlers and preschoolers. The Basics movement aims to help every family help every child reach their full potential. Fun, simple, and powerful, starting at birth, The Basics are five science-based parenting and caregiving principles that support social, emotional, and cognitive development. Each month **Read to Them** will highlight tips and strategies that will assist you in creating a sturdy foundation for school readiness for our youngest citizens in the city of Richmond. This month we are focusing on the importance of *Maximizing Love & Managing Stress*.

#### Moments of Gratitude

Take a moment to think about a few things that make you grateful right now, big or small. Reflect and enjoy that feeling for a few minutes. Look for moments of gratitude in the stories you share this month!

To learn more ways of *Maximizing Love & Managing Stress*, [click here](#).

### Current Number of City of Richmond Readers...



Sign up your child ages 0-5 living in the City of Richmond for FREE BOOKS through the mail today!



As Dolly says, "You can never get enough books into the hands of enough children!"



[www.readtothem.org](http://www.readtothem.org)



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