

CHILDHOOD LITERACY & SCHOOL READINESS

FOR KIDS AGE 0-5 IN McLEAN COUNTY

DID YOU KNOW

Young children need to hear approximately 21,000 words per day to be school-ready.

53%

of Illinois children are *not* school-ready readers

Source: 2022-23 School Year Illinois Kindergarten Individual Development Survey Report

Researchers have found an alarming *million-word gap* between kindergarteners who are read to daily and those who are not. Access to books at home plays a vital role in closing that gap. **With your support, area children ages 0-5 are growing literacy skills and getting school-ready.**

UWMC's Solution

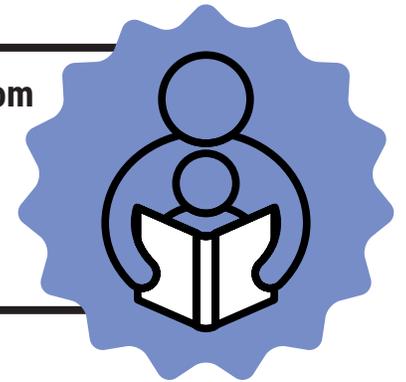
Area children are receiving free books every month.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is UWMC's solution for children's literacy and school-readiness! Registered children ages 0-5 receive a free book every month. That's up to 60 free books of their very own! Children are discovering a love for reading and gaining school readiness that opens pathways to prosperity.

They are discovering a love for reading that sets them up for success in the classroom and for self-sufficiency in adulthood.

Regular reading from birth to age 5 =

1 million word advantage



1 book per month



12 books per year



60 books by age 5





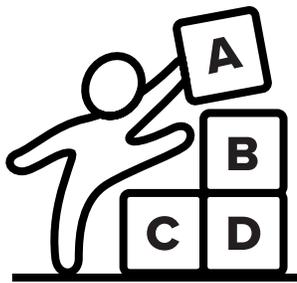
IMPACTS

2024

Investing in Our Future

Today's children are the future of our community.

Area children are gaining the literacy skills that open pathways to prosperity. When children have books at home, it grows vocabulary skills, alphabetic knowledge, and improved memory!



40,000

books have been distributed to McLean County children, at no cost to them.

Your Partnership

With your support, area children are ready to learn and on track for a bright future.



More children need access to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library! That's only possible when friends like you give to support this UWMC solution. Partner with UWMC today so more local children find the pathway to prosperity

SCAN TO
LEARN HOW!



"She carries her books around and constantly asks us to read stories. She's looking at them on her own too. Listening to her jabber as she turns the pages is the sweetest. These books are shaping her into a little reader!"

Parent of child in DPIL program