

## What is the Imagination Library?

The Imagination Library mails a new, age-appropriate book to each registered child every month until age 5 at **NO COST** to the family. Books are selected by a committee of experts in children's literacy and printed specially for the Imagination Library. Inside the cover are reading tips for parents, and on every page is a reading adventure for the child!

## How does it work?

The Dollywood Foundation administers the program, including all administrative costs, managing the book selection, covering the postage and providing the website and technical support. In Northwest Kansas, the Dane Hansen G. Foundation covers the cost of the books. Local affiliate partners take care of registration for the individual counties. A list of the local affiliates is online at [www.NWKansasReads.org](http://www.NWKansasReads.org).



Dear friend,

Thank you for your interest in my Imagination Library.

This program is one of the most important ways I know to improve the educational opportunities for children in your community.

When I was growing up in the hills of East Tennessee, I knew my dreams would come true. I know there are children in your community with their own dreams. They dream of becoming a doctor or an inventor or a minister. Who knows, maybe there is a little girl whose dream is to be a writer and singer.

The seeds of these dreams are often found in books, and the seeds you help plant in your community can grow across the world.

I hope you'll agree to become a champion of the Imagination Library in your community. You will be amazed at the impact this simple gift can have on the lives of children and their families. We have seen it work in our backyard, and I'm certain it can do the same in your community, too!

I appreciate your interest in my Imagination Library and thank you for all you continue to do for children.

Love,

A stylized, cursive signature of Dolly Parton in white ink.

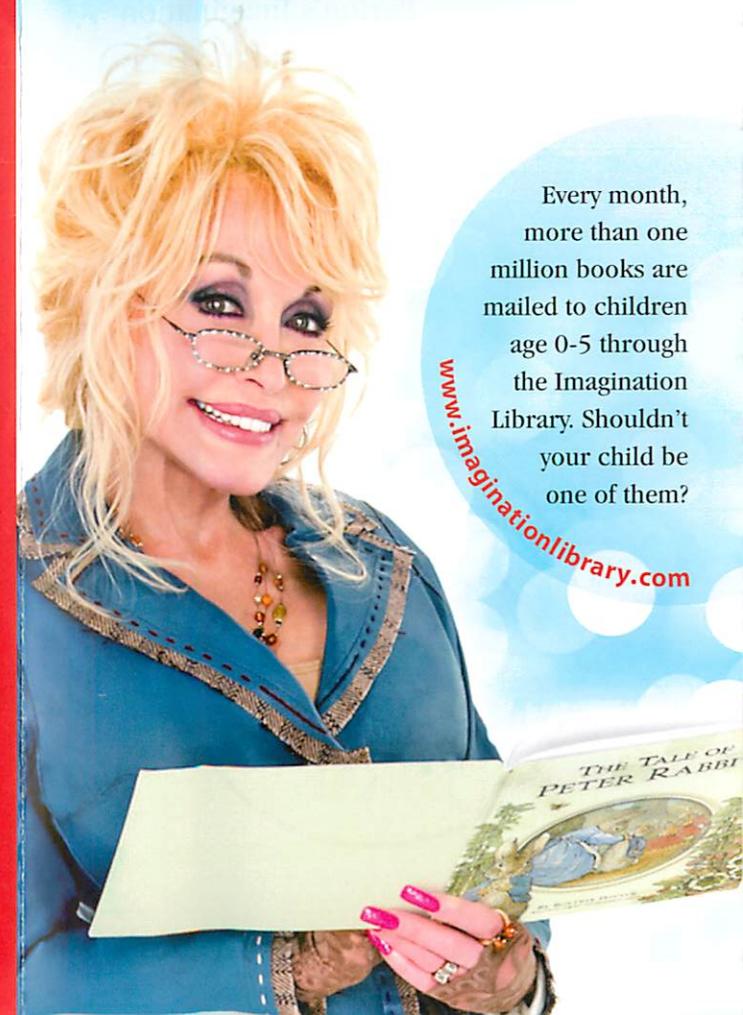
# NWKansas READS

Learn more at [www.NWKansasReads.org](http://www.NWKansasReads.org)



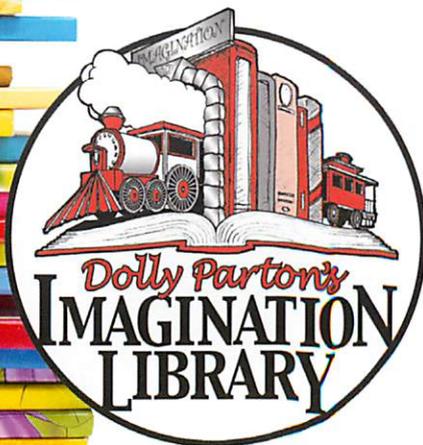
Every month, more than one million books are mailed to children age 0-5 through the Imagination Library. Shouldn't your child be one of them?

[www.imaginationlibrary.com](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com)





You might not think that simply getting books into the homes and hands of children would actually help them be better prepared for school, but it's true. And thanks to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, it has never been easier for a child to build a personal library of his or her very own books.



# Questions? Answers!

The Imagination Library provides **FREE** age-appropriate books for children age 0-5, mailed right to their home. In Northwest Kansas, the Imagination Library is partnering with the Dane G. Hansen Foundation to ensure that every child in the Foundation's 26-county area has the opportunity to participate.

Statistics and independent reports have shown Dolly Parton's Imagination Library drastically improves early childhood literacy for children enrolled in the program.

## Who is eligible?

Any child in Northwest Kansas between the ages of birth to 5 is eligible. Northwest Kansas counties include: Cheyenne, Cloud, Decatur, Ellis, Ellsworth, Gove, Graham, Jewell, Lincoln, Logan, Mitchell, Norton, Osborne, Ottawa, Phillips, Rawlins, Republic, Rooks, Russell, Saline, Sheridan, Sherman, Smith, Thomas, Trego and Wallace.

## How do I sign up my child?

Parents register their children online at [www.imaginationlibrary.com](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com). Click on *Register My Child* and follow the prompts. You will be required to enter the child's birth date, name and gender. (Social Security numbers are NOT required.)

## Are there any income restrictions?

No. Income is not a consideration to participate.

## Are there any fees or hidden costs?

No. All costs are covered by the Dollywood Foundation and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation\*. Local affiliate partners provide administrative support.

## When will the books start coming?

Books will begin arriving at your home about 6-10 weeks after your registration is confirmed by the local affiliate. Your child will continue receiving a book every month until he or she turns five or you move out of Northwest Kansas.

Children who are read to and have books available to them are twice as likely to enter kindergarten ready to learn both reading and math. And reading together promotes bonding. Besides, it's fun!

## What if I move?

It is very important to report your change of address so that your child can continue receiving books. Parents can log on to the Imagination Library website and click on Parent Login Area to enter an address change or update an email. Or, contact the local affiliate. Find your local affiliate at [www.NWKansasReads.org](http://www.NWKansasReads.org). If your new address is not in the Dane Hansen coverage area, your child may not be eligible to continue receiving books.

## Why is the Hansen Foundation promoting reading?

The Foundation recognizes that supporting education for children, beginning at birth, will lead to healthier communities, happier residents and a more productive workforce – all of which supports our mission of providing opportunities and improving the quality of life in Northwest Kansas.

## Why is reading to my child important?

Children learn more quickly during their early years than at any other time in life. Research has shown that the brain develops 90 percent of its capacity in a child's first five years. Being read to daily stimulates brain development, contributes to early language development, school readiness, grade progression, on-time graduation, and higher enrollments for college or other post-secondary opportunities. The more prepared that children are when they enter kindergarten, the less likely they will be held back in school, need special education, or fail to graduate from high school.

*\*Children in Rawlins County are served by another private funder.*