January 2022

Imagination Library eNews

Information and resources for Imagination Library families







As of January 2022, □ 909,623 books have been delivered to more than 25,898 children in Erie County. □ 100% of Imagination Library program funds are raised by support to United Way of Erie County. Learn More and register an Erie County child under the age of 5 in your life: UnitedWayErie.org/Imagination

Do you know someone who may want to register a child for United Way's Imagination Library in Erie County?

It's simple! Forward this newsletter or share this link.

Kindergarten Registration 2022

It's time to think about kindergarten registration



Kindergarten registration is right around the corner!

School districts across Erie County will begin registering incoming kindergarten students this spring, some as early as March.

United Way of Erie County publishes a

Kindergarten Registration flyer every year that lists important registration details for each school district. Keep an eye on our Kindergarten Registration page for updated registration details or reach out to your school district directly. **Learn more**

Ready Set Music



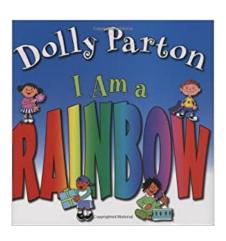
Feelings can be hard for children to talk about. They often demonstrate their feelings before they can use words to share them. Pennsylvania PBS, in partnership with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit, shares Ready Set Music. Music can help children understand feelings in a new way. Visit the link to explore songs, social stories and activities. Learn more

Imagination Library Book Spotlight

I Am A Rainbow By Dolly Parton

Have you ever been tickled pink? Green with envy? Or just plain blue? Well, it's good to know that we all have a rainbow of feelings inside.

Beloved music legend Dolly Parton provides children with a fun way to talk about their feelings in this colorful, upbeat picture book. And by understanding their own feelings, they can learn to respect the feelings of others.



I Am a Rainbow will encourage children of all ages to acknowledge their feelings and take control. Listen to the read aloud!

Keep Your Family Feeling Good This Month!

Inside Out Exploring Emotions Activity with Sensory Play

This hands-on sensory play emotions activity explores emotions and encourages children to talk about their emotions. **Learn more**

Tab Time

Tab Time is a new YouTube series from creator Tabitha Brown. The series explores different themes through the lenses of kindness and confidence. While the series is geared toward preschool age children, parents and children of all ages will instantly fall in love with Ms. Tab!

Learn more

Create a Feelings Vine

Using the downloadable printable and few items you have on hand, you and your child can make a feelings vine. Use the vine to talk about different



Check out <u>United Way's</u>
<u>Raising Readers</u> calendar for
FREE community and online
offerings!

Take a moment to plan which events may fit into your family schedule and plans in the New feelings your child (or you!) may have throughout the day. Teaching your child to identify and name their feelings helps them understand the feelings of others as well as learn how to express themselves.

Year!

Quality Early Care and Education Help is Available!

Erie's Future Fund wants more children to be prepared for success in kindergarten and life. The Fund **provides scholarships to children from low-income families** to attend a high-quality early childhood education program within Erie County.

Learn more

Through the federal Head Start program, Child Development Centers offers a free, full-day preschool program to 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children that includes breakfast, lunch, snack, and transportation at select locations. Families can learn more about the Head Start program by calling 814-480-9505 or beginning their enrollment online at www.cdcenters.org/enroll-now.











If your family resides in Erie County, has an annual income at or below 185% of the poverty level and have a child who will be attending kindergarten in one or two years, your child may be eligible for these scholarships! Learn more about quality early care here.

Protect PA Kids By Ending Lead Paint Poisoning!



Lead poisoning can rob children of their intellect causing brain damage and behavioral and learning problems – problems that follow babies into school and through young adulthood - that can lead to doing poorly in school and increased risk for dropping out of school.

Check out <u>PALeadFree</u>'s full mission to get lead out of PA homes at <u>https://paleadfree.org/</u>. Together, we can finally get the lead out of PA homes and stop poisoning children! <u>#PromiseProject</u>

Erie Family Center's Diaper Depot



Thanks to <u>support</u> from United Way of Erie County, the Erie Family Center's Diaper Depot is now countywide and expanding! Be sure to check out the Erie Family Center for complete information on upcoming Diaper Depot distribution events. <u>Learn more</u>

The 2022 Blue Ribbon Selection list from the Imagination Library is now available!

Check it out!

Important Information

- Learning is Everywhere: <u>In the</u> <u>Kitchen!</u>
- Grab your family clothes, toys, and books at <u>Erie Free Store</u>, open Mondays 4:30 to 7pm!



- Need help finding quality early learning information? Get to know the <u>Early Learning Resource</u> <u>Center - Region 1</u>
- Keep on reading for free, check out your local public library!

Join our K Ready Erie community!



United Way has launched a Facebook group dedicated to informing Imagination Library and Raising Readers families about <u>free</u> resources and events in Erie County that will have your child ready for each school year! <u>K Ready Erie</u>

Stay Connected!

Great information, resources, reading guides and tips are shared on the Imagination Library for Erie County **Facebook page**.

Be sure to Like and Follow the page to stay up to date and informed!







Looking for holiday meals and support this winter season?

Just dial United Way's <u>211</u> helpline. A trained operator will connect you with information about financial assistance, counseling, food/clothing/shelter, health services, substance abuse and much more! **It's always free and confidential**. You can also text your zip code to 898-211 to be helped by 211.





United Way of Erie County

If you are not receiving books, or have a specific question about the Imagination Library please contact **Joanna Peters** via **email** or phone **(814) 456-2937 ext. 233**.