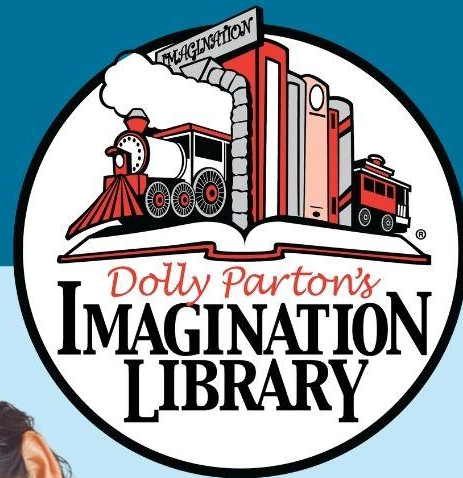


Groundbreaking International Study of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Authored by Dr. Claire Galea, United Way Australia's Head of Research



SUMMARY OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Largest dataset in the world on shared book reading,

collected data from over 86k families in five countries.

- Survey included 86,000+ caregivers across five countries (U.S., Canada, U.K., Australia, Republic of Ireland) with children in the Imagination Library program.
- Caregivers completed surveys at baseline, 6 months, and 12 months, after receiving at least 10 books.
- Responses from 18,112 caregivers who completed all three surveys were compared with 37,776 caregivers who had not yet received books.
- Surveys examined the home literacy environment, caregiver, and child reading attitudes, and children's early literacy skills.
- Findings drew from both quantitative and qualitative data related to caregiver demographics and literacy behaviors.



Key Findings

Groundbreaking International Study of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

1.

Closes Literacy Gaps

In all countries, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library was found to have significant impact helping to prevent early literacy gaps that often persist through school.

FACT

Research found that after just 10 books, children in the program were at least **4x more likely** to demonstrate stronger emerging literacy skills—such as vocabulary and phonological awareness—compared to children not in the program.

2.

Strengthens Home Literacy Environments

In all countries, children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were read to significantly more often than children not in the program.

FACT

Children enrolled were **9x more likely** to be read to 4 or more days per week compared to children not in the program.

3.

Inspires Reading Globally

In all countries, children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were significantly more likely to enjoy books and engage in meaningful reading interactions.

FACT

Children in the program were **9x more likely** to be interested in books and **15x more likely** to join in during shared book reading compared to children not in the program.

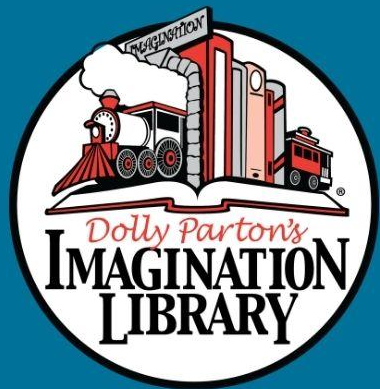
4.

Builds Positive Family Reading Habits

In all countries, the Imagination Library was found to significantly encourage family reading and build traditions around reading.

FACT

Caregivers around the world in the program were **6x more likely** to count images, **7x more likely** to describe images and **4x more likely** to let the child hold the book compared to caregivers not in the program.



USA Impact

Groundbreaking Study
of Dolly Parton's
Imagination Library



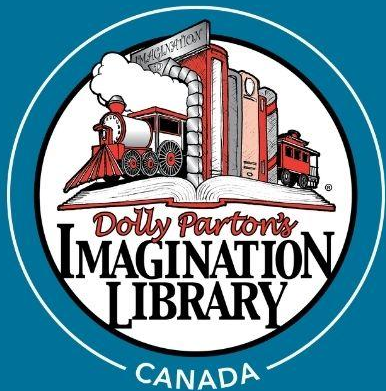
Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **11x more likely** to be interested in books and **15x more likely** to join in during shared book reading compared to children not in the program.

Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were nearly **3x more likely** to demonstrate concepts about print compared to children not in the program.

Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **9x more likely** to initiate shared book reading compared to children not in the program.

Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **5x more likely** to be interested in reading compared to children not in the program .

Caregivers with children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **6x more likely** to count images, **8x more likely** to describe images and **5x more likely** to let the child hold the book compared to caregivers who did not have children in the program.



Canada Impact

Groundbreaking Study
of Dolly Parton's
Imagination Library

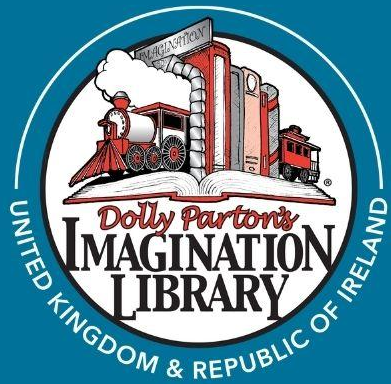


Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **13x more likely** to be read to 4 or more days per week compared to children not in the program.

Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **11x more likely** to initiate shared book reading compared to children not in the program.

Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **7x more likely** to demonstrate expressive vocabulary compared to children not in the program.

Caregivers with children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **6x more likely** to count images, **8x more likely** to describe images and **5x more likely** to let the child hold the book compared to caregivers who did not have children in the program.



United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Impact

Groundbreaking Study of Dolly
Parton's Imagination Library



Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **5x more likely** to demonstrate alphabet knowledge compared to children not in the program.

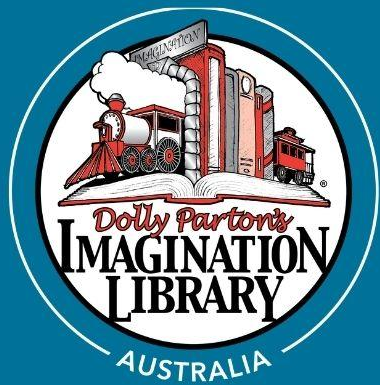
Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **11x more likely** to initiate shared book reading compared to children not in the program.

Caregivers with children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **6x more likely** to count images, **7x more likely** to describe images and **4x more likely** to let the child hold the book compared to caregivers who did not have children in the program.

Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **5.5x more likely** to spend time reading alone.

The average number of books in the household for children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library **went up by 30**, compared to children not in the program.

Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **9x more likely** to demonstrate phonological awareness compared to children not in the program.



Australia Impact

Groundbreaking Study of
Dolly Parton's
Imagination Library

The **number one benefit** reported by caregivers in Australia was that their children enrolled in the Imagination Library developed a strong love of books and reading.

Children enrolled in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Australia were **9x more likely** to be read to 4 or more days per week compared to children not in the program.

Caregivers were **7x more likely** to count images, **8x more likely** to describe images and **4x more likely** to let the child hold the book compared to caregivers not in the program.

In Australia, caregivers with children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library who read daily from birth were **5x more likely** to still read daily at age 3, and their children showed stronger early literacy skills.

Children in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library were **6x more likely** to demonstrate receptive and expressive vocabulary compared to children not in the program.