



IMAGINATION LIBRARY KIPPAX

Since March 2023

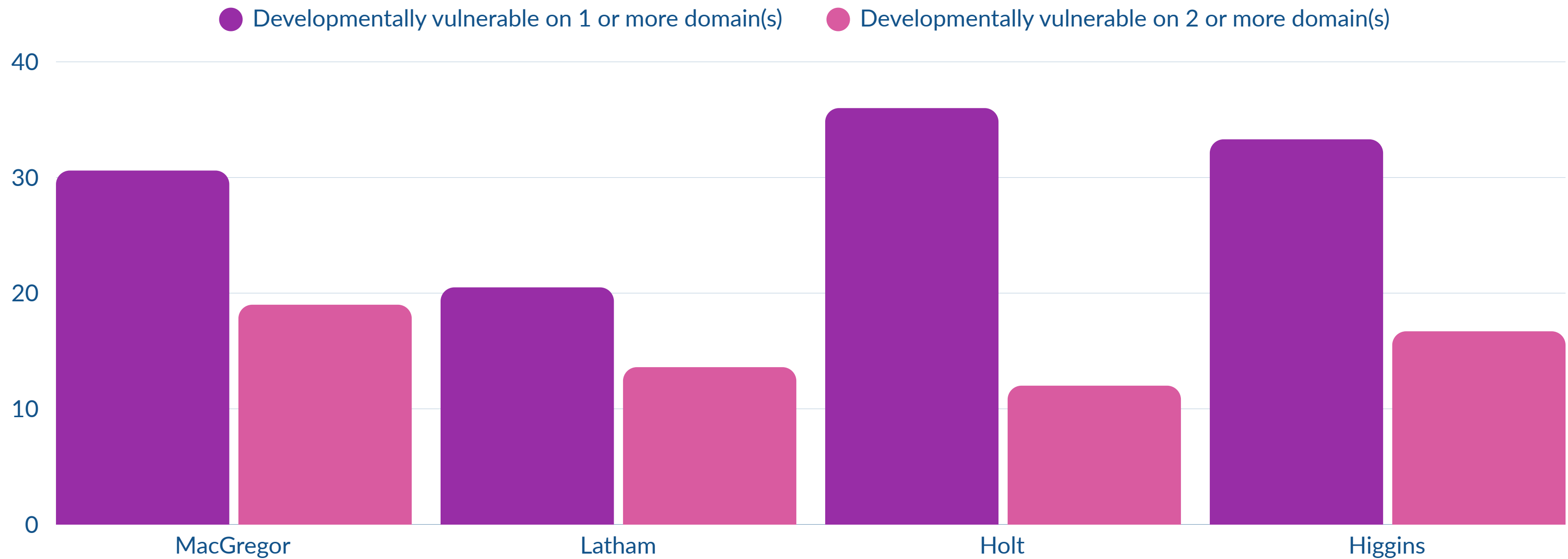




90%

of a child's brain development occurs by the age of 5. Children who are read to at home before starting school hear approximately 1.4 million more words.

BELCONNEN AEDC DATA INSIGHTS 2021



Source: AEDC 2021 results across ACT regions

IMAGINATION LIBRARY KIPAX

Funding secured for **264** children to receive free books for two years



HOW DOES IT WORK



- » **Operational management & costs coverage**
- » **Coordination of Book Selection Committee**
- » **Book database and delivery**
- » **Evaluation**



FUNDING PARTNERS

HOW YOU CAN HELP?



*** \$9 per child/month for new book and parent tip sheet, inclusive of postage





WHAT IS THE IMAGINATION LIBRARY?

A monthly home delivered book program for children from 0-5 years old, free of charge to families.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN?

Children who are 0 to 3 years old, currently living in Charnwood, Dunlop, Holt, Higgins, Latham or MacGregor and have been invited to enrol by partner organisations.

WHY IS READING WITH MY CHILD IMPORTANT?

Reading to your child from a young age will help their language development and assist them to develop the skills to read themselves as they get older.

WHAT DO I DO AFTER REGISTERING?

Enjoy reading with your child every day and using the tip sheets that come with each book. If you are planning on moving, please contact your local coordinator.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY CHILD?

Complete the attached form and return it to the partner organisation who invited you to enrol.

WHO ARE WE?

United Way Australia is a non-profit organisation and licence holder of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, working to ensure every Australian child has the chance to reach their full potential. A Village for Every Child is the local facilitator of the Imagination Library Kippax collective.

DO I HAVE TO PAY?

No. Thanks to United Way Australia, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is FREE. Funding is locally sourced.

KEY CONTACT

Email: tccs.imaginationlibrary@act.gov.au
Phone: (02) 6207 5721

YOUR CHILD'S/CHILDREN'S DETAILS

(Please complete in CAPITAL LETTERS)

Referred by:

(e.g. Rotary, CFHN)

1. First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

2. First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

ADDRESS

Street Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN DETAILS

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

TERMS & CONDITIONS

I hereby explicitly consent to allow the Dollywood Foundation, Inc. to use the information provided herein for the purposes of participating in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library book gifting program. To measure the benefits of this program we may create datasets with the information provided herein and share them with research and educational advancement partners. You agree to review the full Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy by visiting imaginationlibrary.com and the UWA Privacy Policy on our website www.unitedway.com.au

By signing and submitting this form you expressly consent to the terms set forth herein.

United Way Australia surveys parents/guardians to understand the impact of the program. You will receive a survey shortly after enrolment. This survey is optional. The feedback is de-identified and used to share outcomes.

Authorised Adult Signature:

OR

Parent/guardian consent provided ☐

Date: _____

Age: 0-3 years



For more information, please visit belconnenvillage.com.au/imagination-library/

WHAT OUR FAMILIES SAY

Impact
★★★★★

It's hard to get out to visit a library so having books sent to us is amazing.

Parent
Imagination Library Kippax



Impact
★★★★★

Daily story time and the convenience of it at no cost has been invaluable during these tough economic times.

Parent
Imagination Library Kippax



Impact
★★★★★

It's been so exciting for the kids to receive a book each month in the mail and they love reading together.

Parent
Imagination Library Kippax



Impact
★★★★★

It has given us the coolest routine. My son loves the books and enjoys reporting the key words. My son has a speech delay and this has helped so much.

Parent
Imagination Library Kippax





Clarissa David reads with her children Ezekiel, 5, Jericho, 1, and Azrael, 3. Picture by Keegan Carroll

AS SEEN ON CANBERRA TIMES

One book a month delivers major ripple effect

Sarah Lansdown

CLARISSA David's three boys race to the mailbox every month to check for their next book delivery. The family has been part of the Information Library Kippax program since it launched last year. Each month, children aged from birth to five get a free, age-appropriate book alongside a tip sheet for their parents. "It's part of the daily night bedtime tradition to do the reading, a couple of books before bedtime. It's really good," Mrs David said. "My kids are always excited to open our mailbox to see there's some books in there." The program was started by Dolly Parton's charity, the Dollywood Foundation, but has since spread all over

the world.

New research has shown the initiative not only boosts early literacy skills, but also builds connections between parents and their children. Macquarie University PhD candidate and United Way Australia statistician Claire Galea led two studies into the program's impact. The first surveyed caregivers in Tamworth at the start of the program, after six months and after three years. It found children in Tamworth were being read to more often, for longer durations and had more books in the home than the average Australian child. "Seventy-six per cent of children in Tamworth have more than 25 books, and the average [in Tamworth] is 44. It's just amazing to see that kind of result," Mrs Galea said.

The study found 85 per cent of caregivers felt more connected to their child and spent more quality time as a family due to receiving the books. "Fathers didn't know what to do with the newborn, but they could read a book," Mrs Galea said. "I think it was a collective improvement for the whole family. As their literacy improves, their confidence improves and they connect to the child. It's much more than just a child getting emerging literacy skills." The results were replicated in an international survey of 86,000 families in Canada, Ireland, the UK, Australia and the US. Children on the program were more likely to be read to often and demonstrate early literacy skills compared to children not on the program.

After 12 months on the program, children were more than eight times more likely to be interested in books. Mrs Galea is working to expand the Tamworth study to check in with children as they start school and their first year of NAPLAN in year 3. She hopes the early intervention will boost literacy skills in primary school. The Imagination Library Kippax program has noticed similar success since a pilot program began in October last year. Families living in Holt, MacGregor, Higgins and Latham can be referred into the program through a network of community organisations and Evatt Primary School. The suburbs were chosen because they had higher levels of development vulnerability on the

Australian Early Development Census. Now, 155 children from 125 families are receiving monthly book deliveries. A Village for Every Child manager Hemali Gunawardana said sending the book with the child's name on it to the family home overcomes the challenges of coming to a collection point. "The books come for the kids. They have ownership of the book, and it creates those meaningful opportunities for other family members to be part of that routine," she said. "The book is just the start, but there are ripple effects." Ms Gunawardana said the program was cost-effective at only \$9 per child per month. However, after the seed funding runs out, more funding will be required to keep it going.



QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU



A Village for Every Child

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