Overview

Books for Ownership, Reading Is Fundamental’s (RIF) flagship reading program, is grounded in choice, access and engagement. It enables children to select new, age-appropriate books to take home and own and is supported by resources for caregivers, educators, and volunteers to create a continuous focus on reading.

The 2020 RIF Books for Ownership matching grant program provides awards to youth-serving organizations in the form of books to distribute to the children they serve to take home and own, building home libraries and creating a culture of literacy.

Quick Facts

- **March 2, 2020** grant application opens.
- **March 30, 2020** grant application closes.
- Awards are made in book allocations (rather than cash awards) to be spent through RIF’s online bookstore. Each RIF book costs $3.
- The grant program requires local matching funds equal to the grant amount requested from RIF.
- Grantees will be invoiced for the local matching funds, and payment for the match must be sent to RIF prior to receiving an award.
- Grantees will hold at least one book celebration event during the grant period during which each participating child will be able to select at least one book.
- No event or activity is too small to qualify as a book celebration event - as long as book distribution, reading engagement and motivational activity are incorporated.
- The program supports children from birth through 12th grade.
- Program activities may take place from June 2020 through April 2021 with final reporting due to RIF in May 2021.

Questions? Please contact the RIF Community Team at LiteracyNetwork@RIF.org
Preview the RIF Bookstore
Want to check out our book inventory and make sure it fits your needs? Log in to RIF’s Bookstore to explore the variety of titles offered for children birth through grade 12 (subject to change).

RIF Bookstore Website: www.rif.org/bookstore
Username: community.rif@gmail.com
Account Number and Password: RIFID000000

Apply
Beginning March 2, visit RIF.org/literacy-network/our-solutions/books-ownership/grant-information to access the BFO Matching Grant program requirements and grant application.

Our students’ eyes get a twinkle which turns into a great big grin when they realize they are receiving a free book. I love the look of excitement as they run over to their friends and teachers and say “Look what I got!” RIF is providing a spectacular experience for our students.

- Cindy Lain from Communities in Schools of Thomasville

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