



BOOKS FOR OWNERSHIP

IGNITING POSSIBILITIES

What Is Books for Ownership?

Books for Ownership, RIF's flagship reading program, enables children to select new, age-appropriate books to take home and own and is supported by resources for parents, educators, and local literacy advocates to create a continuous focus on reading. With only 1 in 300 low-income children owning a book, this program enables participating children to select books to take home and own for the first time and relies on a simple yet fundamental truth, if you allow children choice and access, they will be more engaged. Over 50 million children nationwide have had the opportunity to experience the power and excitement of this program.

CREATING A CULTURE OF LITERACY

How Books for Ownership Works

The program's approach to reading is anchored by three key tenets proven to create greater motivation to read: access, choice and engagement, and is designed to enable local communities to implement in ways that address the needs of the children they serve.

Choice: Children are given the opportunity to choose books to own at book celebration events. RIF curates high-quality books by a wide range of authors covering diverse topics, ensuring children can relate to the characters and experiences in the book.

Access: RIF builds a literacy ecosystem around these books through Literacy Central, RIF's free digital platform full of thousands of resources designed to extend the reading experience beyond the book with activities, games, lesson plans, and much more.

Engagement: Resources for parents, educators, and community supporters are available through Literacy Network, an online destination to provide information and support to our community partners.



CONTINUALLY INNOVATING

New With the Books for Ownership Program

RIF is committed to continually evaluating its programs, including Books for Ownership, to ensure they meet the needs and changing demands of children and evolving literacy practices. Two of the newest Books for Ownership program elements integrate the needs of digital learners by providing greater access to online resources as well as providing enhanced, actionable support to our community partners.

Integrated Book Resources on Literacy Central

RIF invites partners who participate in Books for Ownership to extend the book experience throughout the year with free digital resources found on Literacy Central. Literacy Central is an online destination for teachers, parents, and literacy volunteers with thousands of resources tied to the books children love including lesson plans, activities, puzzles, games, videos, and more. This is also a great source for complementary motivational activities to integrate into book celebration events. Visit Literacy Central at RIF.org/literacy-central.

Support through Literacy Network

RIF's Literacy Network, is a one-stop shop for all your Books for Ownership needs and support. This online destination provides information, tools and resources to effectively implement the program along with a digital community to share ideas and best practices. Literacy Network at RIF.org/literacy-network provides:

- Steps to get started
- Comprehensive Implementation Planning Guide
- Customizable resources to enhance book celebration events
- Tips on effectively integrating Literacy Central into your program
- Quarterly reading campaigns with supporting resources enabling our partners to easily implement within their school, community center, or other location to encourage a continuous focus on reading

About the Program

Books for Ownership has been offered since RIF's founding in 1966 and is grounded in book celebration.

Purpose: Give children opportunity to own books, motivate children to read, and encourage a culture of literacy.

Goal: Increase reading frequency, motivation, enjoyment, and confidence among all participants.

Cost: \$3 per book.



DEMONSTRATED IMPACT

Grounded in Research

RIF is committed to creating programs that demonstrate measurable impact. Our research* validates the impact of the program model:

- Improves children's reading performance
- Supports children in learning
- Causes children to read more and for longer lengths of time
- Produces improved attitudes toward reading and learning

"The population we serve often have little access to owning their own brand new books. Reading Is Fundamental provided us with the opportunity to implement a program that was fun and educational while impacting literacy skills of the children we serve. The motivational activities we offered with the help of our community volunteers got the children and families excited about reading."

– Adolescent Family Life Program, California



*Learning Point Associates: Children's Access to Print Material and Education-Related Outcomes: Findings from a Meta-Analytic Review, August 2010

To learn more about RIF's Books for Ownership program, visit RIF.org/literacy-network/programs or contact us at literacynetwork@rif.org.

Reading
Is Fundamental

