



HOST A RIF BOOK DISTRIBUTION EVENT

Access to and choice of books are key factors in developing a child's reading skills. By hosting a RIF book distribution event, you can help students discover a love of reading as they have the opportunity to select books and build their home libraries. Use these guidelines to host a successful literacy event that inspires children to get started reading with their new book(s).

- Schedule your book distribution date(s) with ample time to publicize the event so parents and other local school or community leaders have the opportunity to attend.
- The venue for the distribution (a school library or cafeteria, public library, or even a park) should be large enough for children to move around the tables to select books, and with enough room for children to sit and read as soon as they make selections.
- Engage volunteers to support your event by:
 - setting up/breaking down event space (decorations, tables, etc.)
 - sorting books by grade level or theme as needed
 - replenishing book distribution table(s)
 - assisting children with their book selections
 - helping children write their names in their books
 - assisting with crowd flow around tables
 - discussing with kids their book selections and asking them if they'd like to sit down and read the book together
 - taking pictures to capture the experience (don't forget to get parental permission for any photos later used to showcase the event)

- Participate with the students as they select their books, asking them about their interests and talking with them about the excitement of reading their new book(s) at home with family or friends.
- Make sure that the teachers and parents are aware they can get support materials for the books by visiting Literacy Central at rif.org/literacy-central, RIF's online destination for teachers, parents, and literacy volunteers to get thousands of free digital resources tied directly to the books children love and teachers turn to everyday. The portal provides tools to easily organize and keep reading resources in one place with customizable book lists, printable lesson plans, activities, games, reading passages, calendars, and videos.
- Brand the event with Reading Is Fundamental to showcase your support of our collective mission to help all children learn to read and thrive. Email us at krasmussen@rif.org for the RIF logo and use it to create a banner, bin signs or even RIF stickers to place on each donated book.
- Add some extra RIF collateral. Visit the RIF Merchandise Store at <http://www.cafepress.com/rifmerchandise> and take a look at some fun, low-cost items you can give away to the children at the event.