

Who We Are

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world.

Through Little Free Libraries, millions of books are exchanged each year, profoundly increasing access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds.

How Does It Work

A Little Free Library is a “take a book, return a book” free book exchange. They come in many shapes and sizes, but the most common version is a small wooden box of books. Anyone may take a book or bring a book to share. Little Free Library book exchanges have a unique, personal touch. There is an understanding that real people are sharing their favorite books with their community; Little Libraries have been called “mini-town squares.”

Why Does Book Access Matter?

Academically, children growing up in homes without books are on average **three years behind** children in homes with lots of books, even when controlled for other key factors. (M.D.R Evans et al, *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, June 2010)

One of the most successful ways to improve the reading achievement of children is to increase their access to books, especially at home. But **61% of low-income families** do not have any age-appropriate books for their kids at home.

Little Free Libraries play an essential role by providing 24/7 access to books (and encouraging a love of reading!) in areas where books are scarce

