



Reach Out and Read (ROR) Liaison Tasks:

*If your office has not received your shipment of books by the 7th of the month, contact the ROR Team

*Review all book titles to ensure all are appropriate

*Receive, open and organize the monthly book orders

Program History:

ROR was founded in 1989 in Boston and began in 2003 at Akron Children's Hospital. The program is available in all Akron Children's Hospital Pediatrics offices. ROR is dedicated to fostering the development of early literacy skills among children as a standard part of pediatric primary care. To accomplish its goal of putting children on the road to success in school and beyond, ROR provides primary care doctors with a standard model to incorporate into their practice. This model has three components:

1. At well-child visits from 6 months to 5 years, providers give parents information about the importance of reading aloud to their children. They demonstrate how best to look at books and talk about the stories based on the developmental needs of the child. They encourage them to read together at home and build routines around books. Books are prescribed at the 6 month, 9 month, 12 month, 15 month, 18 month, 24 month, 3 year, 4 year and 5 year well-child visits. Books are not to be given at sick visits and ROR should not be referred to as a book giveaway program.
2. During the well-child visit, the provider prescribes the child a new, developmentally appropriate book to take home.
3. Nearly new books are available in the waiting area for children of all ages to take home and keep.

Reach Out and Read Program Coordinators:

Lindsay Riley
330-543-0663

Francine McBride
330-729-9247

Reach Out and Read Hospital Email:

Please direct any correspondence to the hospital ROR email address: reachoutandread@akronchildrens.org.

Monthly Newsletter:

Each month, the liaison and supervisor will receive a newsletter to make you both aware of the number of books to expect in your monthly shipment and to share literacy information and program updates.

ROR Provider Education: If a provider has a question about the required ROR training, please refer them to the ROR Team for assistance.

Monthly Book Supply: The program coordinators identify the amount of books each site will need each month based on well check metrics provided by ACHP Administration. The External Affairs Department receives various grants and donations to fund the program. **Because of this, we are only able to provide enough books for 75% of the well visits 6 months to 5 years. It is likely your ACHP will run out of books before the end of the month.**

Books are shipped directly to your site from the book vendors, Books By the Bushel and Barnes & Noble, and should arrive by the 7th of the month.

Board Books vs. Pre-K Books:

A board book has pages that are made from heavy cardboard. You may receive these in sets and will need to open them to distribute them individually. Board books are prescribed for 6 month –2 year well-child visits. A Pre-K book is any book that does not have the heavy cardboard pages and is not a chapter book and is prescribed at the well-child visits for 3-5 years. It may have a hard cover but the pages will be made of regular paper. Tiny board books that are received should be given at the 6 and 9 month well-child visits.

Book Storage: Books should be organized by board books and pre-k books. This will make distribution easier. Contact a ROR coordinator if you need book storage bins.

Additional Book Deliveries: ROR celebrates literacy education throughout the year. Your ACHP may receive additional books. The ROR Coordinators will let you know when to expect them. These may include holiday and themed books or books for special literacy weeks. ROR receives thousands of donated books each year which makes it difficult to carefully review each title. Please look closely at the books you receive to ensure that they are appropriate.

Imagination Library (IL):

When enrolled in IL, the Ohio Governor’s Imagination Library provides every Ohio child from birth to age 5 with a free book each month. It is a great opportunity for eligible children to receive additional books sent directly to their home. All the sites were provided IL QR code badges. If you do not have one, contact a ROR Coordinator. Additional IL information can be found on the External Affairs myKidsnet page.

Book Donations and Book Drives: ROR will gladly accept new and/or nearly new books appropriate for children ages 0-8. If you are contacted, please let a ROR coordinator know via the ROR email. Additional information about book drives and donations can be found on the External Affairs myKidsnet page.

Want to learn more? Visit the Reach Out and Read National web site at www.reachoutandread.org.