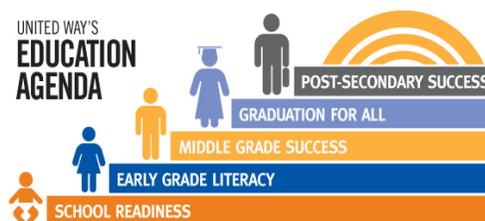




The Imagination Library survey is administered on an annual basis each spring to parents of children currently enrolled in the program. More than 2,700 children receive Imagination Library books in the counties of Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Yellow Medicine, and portions of Cottonwood, Lac qui Parle, Nobles and Redwood counties in Southwest Minnesota. The 2017 survey was sent to 1,750 parents and of those 358 responded.

The following points include the quantitative data of the parents that responded from the 2017 Imagination Library survey:

- 86.87% agree that the quality of Imagination Library books is above average.
- 97.48% agree that they have more books in their home because of Imagination Library.
- 83.76% agree that they read more to their children because of Imagination Library.
- 87.95% agree that their child often asks them to read to them.
- 76.19% agree that their child(ren) often uses the words that he or she has learned through the books.
- 89.64% agree that they set aside special time for reading to their child(ren).
- 70.67% agree that their child(ren) can tell the story in the books in his or her own words.
- 84.88% agree that Imagination Library books are helping their child(ren) be better prepared for Kindergarten by getting them ready to read.
- 76.53% agree that the time they are spending reading Imagination Library books with their child(ren) is improving their child(ren)'s social skills (sharing, getting along with others, etc.).
- 72.55% agree that Imagination Library books are increasing their own ability to read to their child(ren)
- 87.67% agree that Imagination Library books are increasing the quality time they spend with their child(ren).
- 79.05% agree that they spend more time reading to their child(ren) because of Imagination Library books.
- 75% agree that their child(ren) have shown more interest in books since receiving Imagination Library books.
- 87.57% are aware that the United Way of Southwest Minnesota is the local champion of the Imagination Library in their service area.
- 63.66% stated that since receiving Imagination Library books, they read to their child(ren) daily while another 15.21% stated they read 5-6 times a week to their child(ren).



The following points are a sample of the qualitative testimonials submitted by parents at the end of the survey.

- *“My son loves books and the Imagination Library has made it possible to have books in every room of our house, in the car, and at Grandma's house. I like the books in both English and Spanish, to help me refresh my Spanish speaking.”*
- *“We have loved receiving the books each month since birth. We started reading to our child at a very young age, and he always looks forward to a new book coming just for him. It really has helped foster his love of reading, and solidified our quality time by helping us ensure reading is a part of our daily routine. Thank you!”*
- *“Our whole family loves the books. Even my 11 and 8 year olds are excited when their little brother gets a new book in the mail. We appreciate the new books so much! Kids like to hear the same books over and over, but as a parent it is so refreshing to be able to add a new one to the mix every month! THANK YOU!!!”*
- *“Thank you to United Way of Southwest Minnesota for sponsoring and managing this awesome program. It is a wonderful opportunity for my child and our family. Having these books in our home has encouraged my child's love for reading and enhanced learning. The books are high quality and I am so appreciative that there is a program like this in our rural area that all kids can benefit from. Thank you!!!”*
- *“We absolutely love this program and look forward to receiving high-quality, age-appropriate literature to read and discuss together. I really love the extension ideas for parents in the covers of the books. This program definitely has a positive impact on my family. Thank you!”*

