



Little Free Library®



What started as a simple idea became a global literacy movement. The first Little Free Library book-sharing box was built in 2009 in Wisconsin. There are now more than 125,000 registered, volunteer-led Little Free Libraries around the world. The Little Free Library nonprofit organization is at the heart of this phenomenon. Our growing network shares our mission to be a catalyst for building community, inspiring readers, and expanding book access for all.

Little Free Library Highlights

- **More than 250 million books** have been shared through registered Little Free Libraries, profoundly increasing book access for readers of all ages and backgrounds.
- **Thousands of neighbors** have connected for the first time, building stronger and friendlier communities.
- Our Impact Library Program has granted **more than 1,500 Little Free Libraries at no cost** to communities where they are needed most.
- Launched in 2020, our **Read in Color initiative** has reached 11 cities and distributed more than **30,000 diverse books** celebrating BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and other marginalized voices.

Little Free Library By the Numbers



125,000
Little Free Libraries



50
U.S. States
Served



112
Countries
Served

- Our **Native American initiative** has provided little libraries full of books to Native communities in partnership with tribal leaders.
- Launched in 2017, Our Action Book Club has inspired thousands of participants to **read books, spread kindness**, and work together to improve their communities.
- LFL has attracted **high-profile collaborators** including Amerigroup, Disney, Foresters Financial, Good Morning America, Goodreads, Marvel, Scotiabank, and Sony.
- LFL has been awarded the **World Literacy Award** and Guidestar's respected **Platinum Seal of Transparency**, as well as recognition from the Library of Congress, the National Book Foundation, the Women's National Book Association, and more.

Milestones

1st



2009 - Todd H. Bol creates the first Little Free Library book-sharing box at his home in Hudson, Wisconsin

2012 - Little Free Library is officially established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
- In August, the 2,510th Little Free Library is built, and the goal of surpassing the number of Andrew Carnegie's free public libraries is reached

2013 - The National Book Foundation awards LFL an Innovations in Reading Prize
- Library Journal presents LFL with a Movers and Shakers Award, highlighting the thought leaders in the library industry

2015 - *The Little Free Library Book* is released, chronicling the journey of LFL and stewards worldwide
- In October, LFL is awarded the Library of Congress Literacy Award for its effective implementation of best practices in literacy and reading promotion



2016 - 50,000 Little Free Libraries are now found in all 50 states and 70 countries
- LFL's Impact Library Program launches, granting no-cost Libraries full of books to high-need communities



2017 - LFL launches the Action Book Club, combining reading and community service
- LFL receives Women's National Book Association's Second Century Prize

2018 - LFL receives the Force for Positive Change Award
- LFL partners with Disney and Marvel Studios to produce Avengers-themed Little Free Libraries
- The Today Show unveils their Little Free Library at 30 Rockefeller Plaza in NYC
- The 75,000th Little Free Library is given to an elementary school in Oklahoma via LFL's Impact Library Program

10 Years



2019 - LFL celebrates ten years of Little Free Libraries with the first annual Todd H. Bol Awards for Outstanding Achievement
- A Little Free Library is unveiled at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

100,000



2020 - The 100,000th Little Free Library book-sharing box is donated to the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans in Houston, TX
- LFL receives the World Literacy Award
- A Little Free Library is established at the South Pole, expanding Little Free Libraries to all 7 continents
- LFL launches Read in Color in the Twin Cities, a new initiative bringing diverse books to Little Free Library book-sharing boxes around the world

2021 - The 125,000th Little Free Library is installed at the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming
- LFL launches Unbound, a digital event series connecting stewards and supporters
- The Impact Library Program grants its 1,500th no-cost Little Free Library
- LFL rolls out Read in Color to nine additional cities
- LFL network reaches milestone of sharing 250 million books

