

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, strong literacy skills are foundational to educational success, civic engagement and lifelong opportunity for every child in Washington state; and

WHEREAS, the existence of "book deserts" in our state has created real barriers for students who are furthest from educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Washington state is grateful for partnerships between schools, families, businesses, and community organizations to ensure that children living in low-income communities have access to books of their own and the chance to discover the joy of reading for pleasure; and

WHEREAS, Page Ahead, an organization that provides free books and culturally relevant reading resources to hundreds of thousands of Washington children, will give away its five millionth book on March 5, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Ferguson, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim March 5, 2026, as

Children's Literacy Day

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in celebrating the transformative power of books, and to recommit ourselves to the vision that every child in our state will be able to imagine what is possible through reading.



Signed this 27th day of February, 2026

Bob Ferguson
Governor Bob Ferguson