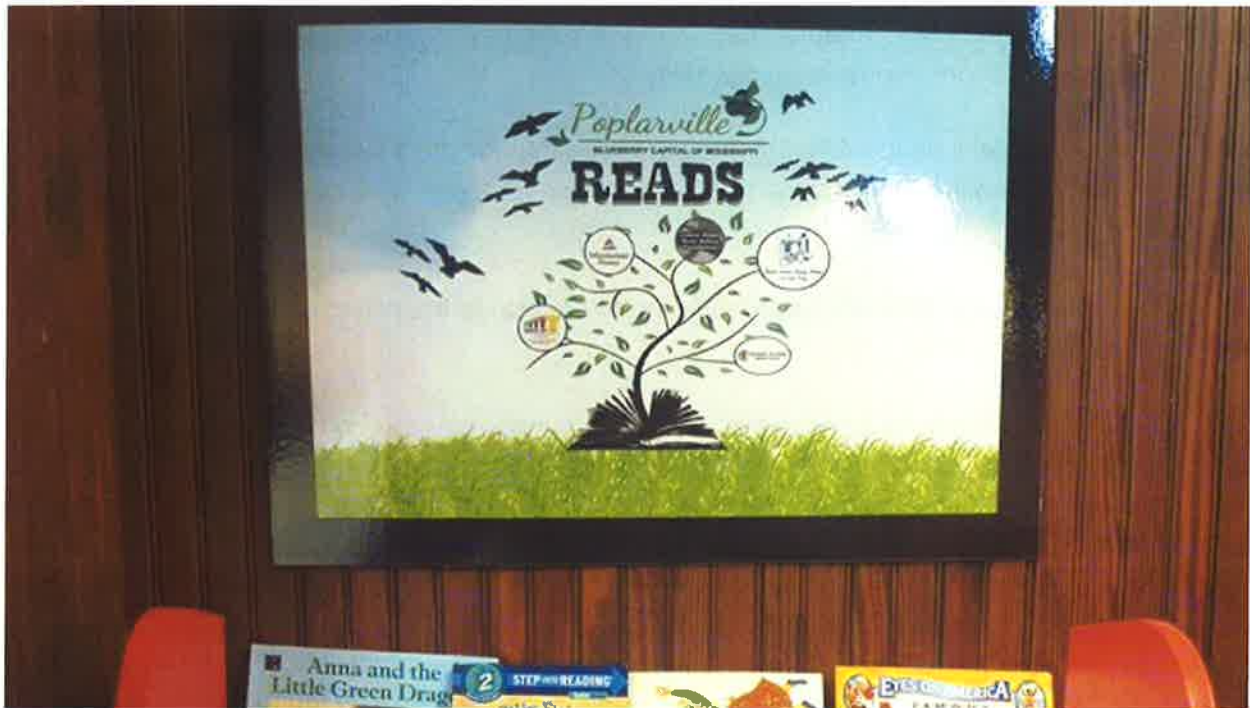


# Reading stations spreading through Poplarville

[picayuneitem.com/2019/07/reading-stations-spreading-through-poplarville/](http://picayuneitem.com/2019/07/reading-stations-spreading-through-poplarville/)

By Jeremy Pittari Email the author Published 7:00 am Wednesday, July 24, 2019

July 24, 2019



Residents of Poplarville may have noticed that several businesses in town now offer reading stations for children.

They are part of a collaboration between Excel By 5 and Poplarville Reads and not only provide books for children to read while in that business, but allow the children to take those books home.

Built by volunteers in town with donated supplies, the book stations include books provided by Poplarville Reads, who purchases them at a discount from various places or receives them as donations, said Carolyn Tedford, director of the Poplarville Reads Program.

"We know that early literacy is important for success in school. A lot of families can't afford books, so we put the books in businesses," Tedford said.

The first reading station was installed in the Burger King in town in 2016, and now there are eight stations throughout the town that offer reading materials children can take home.

Some of the stations in smaller businesses are comprised of baskets that house the books. Supplies for the shelves installed in larger businesses were donated by Mark Hines, owner of Wheat's Home and Building Supplies, and were constructed by Michael Brown and Bud Lott, Tedford said.

Larger businesses like Pearl River Drug received the shelves, while smaller businesses with less room had baskets installed to house the books.