



Congratulations, you have taken the first step on the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten journey by registering your child for this wonderful program.

Did you know that reading to your child is one of the most powerful ways to boost his or her brain power? The simple and enjoyable act of sharing books helps your child learn pre-reading skills such as understanding the sounds letters make, developing a bigger vocabulary, and building background knowledge — all important skills that help prepare your child for learning to read and entering kindergarten.

In the registration pack, you will find:

- Pencil
- Stickers
- Bookmark
- Early Literacy Brochure
- Getting Started Tip Sheets
- Reading Recommendations
- Coloring Sheets and Crayons
- First 100 Books Tracking Card

Book List to Get Started:

- *Spiders* by Nic Bishop
- *Ninja!* by Arree Chung
- *Hello, Red Fox* by Eric Carle
- *8: An Animal Alphabet* by Elisha Cooper
- *A Butterfly Is Patient* by Dianna Hutts Aston
- *Can You Make a Scary Face?* by Jan Thomas

When you have read 100 books and filled out your tracking card, you can bring it by the Waynesville or Canton branches to pick up a prize and a new tracking card, as well as add a fish to our mural.

Once you complete the program, your child will receive some fun prizes and, more importantly, be better prepared to enter kindergarten.

Happy Reading!

Getting Started

The American Library Association has created a program called *Every Child Ready to Read* that focuses on five early literacy practices that will help your child on their path to becoming a reader.

READING

- Reading together remains the single most effective way to help children become proficient readers.
- Reading introduces children to rare words that they may not hear in everyday conversation.
- Children who enjoy being read to are more likely to want to learn to read themselves.
- Reading together develops the skills children need to understand other books and stories when they are older.

SINGING

- Singing helps children learn new words.
- Singing together is a fun bonding experience with your child – whether you're a good singer or not!
- Singing develops listening and memory skills and makes repetition easier for young children.
- Singing slows down language so children can hear the different sounds that make up words and learn about syllables.

TALKING

- Telling stories and stretching conversations help children learn how to express themselves and how to have a structured conversation.
- Talking about many different things helps children develop the knowledge they need to understand the content of what they read.
- Young children understand spoken words long before they can speak them – talk to them and be amazed at how they respond!
- Talking to your child in the language you are most fluent in is the best way to help your child develop early literacy skills.

WRITING

- Scribbling and drawing are forms of writing. The lines and pictures a child draws may not be words, but they mean something to them.
- Writing doesn't always have to be writing – it can be playing with play dough or crinkling up paper to help strengthen finger muscles!
- Scribbling and drawing helps children develop eye-hand coordination and the fine motor control they need to hold a pencil.
- Children become aware that words have meaning as they write. They learn the purpose of reading through the process of writing.

PLAYING

- Play is one of the primary ways young children learn about how the world around them works.
- Play helps children learn to put their thoughts into words.
- Play is how children practice becoming adults and process what they see and hear everyday.
- Play helps children think symbolically which helps them discover that words can stand for real objects or experiences.