

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Congratulations on making the choice to participate in this **free** program which encourages you to read 1,000 books with your child before he or she starts kindergarten!

Program Overview

The concept is simple, the rewards are priceless. Read a book (any book) to your newborn, infant, and/or toddler. The goal is to have read 1,000 books (yes you can repeat books) before your precious little one starts kindergarten. Does it sound hard? Not really if you think about it. If you read just 1 book a night, you will have read about 365 books in a year. That is 730 books in two years and 1,095 books in three years! If you consider that most children start kindergarten at around 5 years of age, you have more time than you think (so get started).

The key is perseverance. Make it exciting. When your children reach a milestone, come into the library for a sticker reward to add to your progress chart!

How to Participate

- Read with your child. Studies have shown that reading with your child provides a great opportunity for bonding. Reading together is fun and will create life-long memories for the both of you.
- Keep track of the titles of the books that you or anyone (i.e. sibling or teacher) has read with your child. The free Beanstack App is a convenient method to utilize in order to stay organized.
- At every 100 book milestone you can check in with a librarian for a sticker to mark your achievement. When you have reached the 1,000 books goal, we hope you will keep reading with a free book from us!

Frequently Asked Questions

- Who can participate in this program? *Any child from birth until he or she enters kindergarten can participate in the 1,000 books Before kindergarten program.*
- How long will the program take? *The program will take anywhere from a few months to a few years. The program is self-paced and will depend on how often you read together.*
- How many of my children can participate? *All of them (provided they have not yet started kindergarten). Make it even more fun and read as a family!*

How to use the Beanstack Tracker App

Esta aplicación no está disponible en español

1. Download the “Beanstack Tracker App” from your phones app store (currently only available for android and apple devices).
2. Open the app, and click on “Find your School or Library”
3. Type in “Watsonville”
4. Click on “Watsonville Public Library”
5. If you’ve made an account already, go ahead and sign in...
6. If you need to make an account,
7. Click on “Don’t Have an Account, Sign Up!” at the bottom of the screen
8. Create an account by following the prompts
9. Fill out your reader profile to register for the program and participate.
10. Add any additional readers if you’d like for them to also participate.

Simple Strategies for Creating Strong Readers

Through reading aloud, providing print materials, and promoting positive attitudes about reading and writing, you can have a powerful impact on your child’s literacy and learning.

- Read with your child every day.
- When reading a book where the print is large, point word by word as you read. This will help your child learn that reading goes from left to right and understand that the word he or she is hearing is the word he or she sees.
- Read your child’s favorite book over and over again.
- Read stories with rhyming and lines that repeat. Invite your child to join in on these parts, pointing at each word while they repeat the line.
- Discuss new words. For example, “This big house is called a palace. Who do you think lives in the palace?”
- Stop and ask about the pictures and about what is happening in the story.
- Read from a variety of children’s books, including fairy tales, song books, poems, and non-fiction, information books.

Recommended Books to Read with Your Child Before Kindergarten

The Library Has a Copy of Each Item in the List

- Alborough, Jez: Where's My Teddy?
- Asch, Frank: Happy Birthday, Moon
- Bang, Molly: Ten, Nine, Eight
- Barrett, Judi: Animals Should Definitely Not Wear
- Clothing
- Becker, Bonny: A Visitor for Bear
- Bemelmans, Ludwig: Madeline
- Benton, Jim: The End (Almost!)
- Bornstein, Ruth: Little Gorilla (Sp only)
- Brett, Jan: The Mitten
- Brown, Marcia: Stone Soup
- Brown, Margaret Wise: Goodnight Moon
- Burningham, John: Mr. Gumpy's Outing
- Burton, Virginia Lee: Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel
- Cannon, Janell: Stellanuna
- Capucilli, Alyssa Satin: Biscuit Loves the Library
- Carle, Eric: The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- Christelow, Eileen: Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed
- Chung, Arree: Ninja!
- Coffelt, Nancy: Fred Stays with Me
- Crews, Donald: Freight Train
- Cronin, Doreen: Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type
- Day, Alexandra: Good Dog, Carl
- Dorros, Arthur: Abuela
- Eastman, P.D.: Are You My Mother?
- Ehlert, Lois: Feathers for Lunch
- Emberley, Ed: Go Away, Big Green Monster!
- Falconer, Ian: Olivia
- Feiffer, Jules: Bark, George
- Fleming, Denise:
- Freeman, Don: Corduroy
- Gag, Wanda: Millions of Cats
- Galdone, Paul: The Three Little Pigs
- Gerstein, Mordicai: The Man Who Walked Between the Towers
- Goble, Paul: The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses
- Guarino, Deborah: Is Your Mama a Llama?
- Henkes, Kevin: Kitten's First Full Moon
- Hill, Eric:
- Ho, Minfong: Hush!: A Thai Lullaby
- Hoban, Russell: Bread and Jam for Frances
- Hoffman, Mary: Amazing Grace
- Holabird, Katherine: Angelina Ballerina
- Hutchins, Pat: Rosie's Walk
- Jenkins, Steve: What do you do with a tail like this? (Sp only)
- Johnson, Crockett: Harold and the Purple Crayon
- Juster, Norton: The Hello, Goodbye Window
- Kasza, Keiko: The Wolf's Chicken Stew (Sp only)
- Keats, Ezra Jack: The Snowy Day
- Kimmel, Eric: Anansi and the...
- Kraus, Robert: Whose Mouse are You?
- Kraus, Ruth: The Carrot Seed
- Leaf, Munro: The Story of Ferdinand
- Lionni, Leo: Little Blue and Little Yellow
- Lobel, Anita: On Market Street
- Lobel, Arnold: Frog and Toad Are Friends
- London, Jonathan: Froggy Gets Dressed
- Martin, Bill: Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?
- Martin, Bill: Chicka Chicka Boom Boom
- McBratney, Sam: Guess How Much I Love You
- McCloskey, Robert: Make Way for Ducklings
- McKissack, Pat: Goin' Someplace Special
- McLimans, David: Gone Wild: An Endangered Alphabet
- McMullan, Kate and Jim: I Stink!
- McPhail, David: Pigs Aplenty, Pigs Galore
- Meddaugh, Susan: Martha Speaks
- Noble, Trinkka: The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash
- Numeroff, Laura: If You Give a Mouse a Cookie
- O'Connor, Jane: Fancy Nancy
- Penn, Audrey: The Kissing Hand
- Pinkney, Sandra: Shades of Black
- Piper, Watty: The Little Engine that Could
- Potter, Beatrix: The Tale of Peter Rabbit
- Rey, H.A.: Curious George
- Rohman, Eric: My Friend Rabbit
- Rosen, Michael: We're Going on a Bear Hunt
- Rossetti-Shustak, Bernadette: I Love You Through and Through (Sp only)
- Rylant, Cynthia: The Relatives Came
- Say, Allen: Grandfather's Journey
- Scarry, Richard: Cars and Trucks and Things that Go
- Seeger, Laura Vaccaro: First the Egg
- Sendak, Maurice: Where the Wild Things Are
- Seuss, Dr.: Green Eggs and Ham
- Seuss, Dr.: The Cat in the Hat
- Shannon, David: Duck on a Bike
- Shaw, Charles: It Looked Like Spilt Milk
- Simmons, Jane: Come Along Daisy
- Simont, Marc: The Stray Dog (Sp only)
- Sis, Peter: Fire Truck
- Slobodkina, Esphyr: Caps for Sale
- Taback, Simms: There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly
- Wells, Rosemary: Noisy Nora (Sp only)
- Willems, Mo: Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus
- Wood, Audrey: The Napping House
- Yolen, Jane: How do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?
- Yolen, Jane: Owl Moon
- Young, Ed: Seven Blind Mice
- Zion, Gene: Harry, The Dirty Dog