

# 1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

## EARLY LITERACY PROGRAM BIRTH - AGE 5

**Welcome** to the University City Public Library **1000 Books Before Kindergarten** program.

Young children begin the process of learning to read long before they start school. Research indicates that reading aloud with a young child for just twenty minutes per day helps the child understand that letters make sounds, sounds make words, and words make stories and songs. **It is never too early to read, talk, sing, and play with young children.**

### *Who Can Participate?*

- Any child from birth to the day they enter Kindergarten is eligible.
- For multiple children in a household, pick up a log packet for each child under Kindergarten age.

### *How Does 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Work?*

- **Pick up a 1000 Books Before Kindergarten folder** at U. City Public Library or download and print the book logs and sticker sheet from our webpage: [www.ucitylibrary.org/kids](http://www.ucitylibrary.org/kids)
- **Track Your Reading** – Use your reading logs to record 100 books at a time. Each time you read a book with your child, write the title on the reading log in the folder. You can count books read at library storytimes, books read on a tablet or iPad, and books read on the computer from TumbleBooks™, Hoopla, or other online source. Some children find a favorite they want to hear over and over. Write that title down every time it's read.
- **Bring in your filled log sheet** each time you have completed 100 books to receive a special sticker. After 500, get sticker and a special prize.
- **Read More Books!** When your child reaches 1000 books, they will receive a new picture book and their photo will be added to our 1000 Books Hall of Fame display.

### *Helpful Suggestions:*

- **Have fun!** Reading together should never be a chore.
- If you read **one story at bedtime** each night for **three years**, you'll have shared **1,095** books.
- If you read **ten books a week** for **two years**, you'll have shared 1,040 books.
- Although we want to encourage you to visit the library, books do not have to all come from the library. Also read what you have at home.

**REMEMBER, IT IS NOT A RACE, IT'S A JOURNEY.**

**ENJOY THE PROCESS!**