

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
- **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!