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## 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 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 and fun. For every 100 books you read together, bring your child to the library to receive a small reward. Make it to 500 and receive a free book for your child. When you have finished 1,000 books, your child will receive a certificate of completion and a book bag. Your child will also be invited to a celebration held annually in March for our 1000 Books participants.

## 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 number of books that you read with your child. Use the book logs from our handy portfolio case, keep track at our website, or write them down in a notebook. The book logs or notebook will be a great keepsake for you child.
- If you are able to, make sure to keep a **record** of any book that was read to your child. This includes storytime classes at the library, teachers, and siblings.

## Frequently Asked Questions

- Who can participate? *Any Child from birth until he or she enters kindergarten can participate in the 1000 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.*