

WELCOME TO 1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN! a year-round reading program for children ages birth to five years. It's a fun, exciting, and free way to start children on the path to success.

One of the most reliable predictor of school success is being read to during early childhood. The Library would like to help support you as you prepare your child for kindergarten. Most importantly, sharing books with children promotes a lifelong love of books and reading.

Just follow these steps to begin:

- 1. **Register**: Sign up at the Children's Services question desk or online. Pick up program materials at the Library or print them from the website.
- 2. Track Your Reading: Mark your reading record for each book you read with your child.
- 3. **Every Book Counts**: Even if your child wants to hear the same book again and again, you can count it each time. You can also count the books your child hears at story time, in day care or preschool, or with a friend or family member. As long as your child listens to the entire book, it counts!
- 4. **100-Book Milestones**: Each time you read 100 books, bring your reading record to the Library to receive a special sticker. Take home a new reading record for your next 100 books or print one from the Library's website.
- 5. **500 and 1,000 Books**: You did it! Come to the Library and receive a free book.
- 6. **Keep on Reading**: Don't stop at 1,000! Keep on reading together there's more learning ahead!

Singing songs, saying rhymes, telling stories, and playing with your child are all great ways to build their literacy skills. The Library has free programs for children every month that are fun and educational. It's also a place to find great books to share!

1,000 books may seem like a lot, but if you read just one book a night, you'll meet your goal in less than three years. If you read three books a night, you could reach your goal in just one year! Ask our friendly staff for suggestions—we're here to help you on your journey to

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten!

HAPPY READING!

Book prizes are funded by the Friends of The Urbana Free Library

