

Welcome to 1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN!

This self-paced program is designed to encourage you and your child to make a habit of reading every day. The concept is simple, and the rewards are priceless. Read a book (any book) to your newborn, infant, or toddler. The goal is to read 1,000 books (yes, you can repeat books!) before your child starts kindergarten.

Sound hard? Not really, if you think about it: Most children’s books take 5 minutes to read. If you read just **1** book in five minutes a night, you will have read **1,000** books in less than three years. Considering most children start Kindergarten when they are 5 years old, 1,000 books before kindergarten is possible for every little one!

Child’s age when 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Starts	Number of Books to Read Per Day to Complete 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten	Number of Books to Read Per Week to Complete 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
0 Years Old	1	4
1 Year Old	1	5
2 Years Old	1	7
3 Years Old	2	10
4 Years Old	3	20

How to Participate

1000 Books Before Kindergarten is a self-paced program and has no end date except your child’s first day of Kindergarten. You decide how often and how long you read. The key is to keep going! Celebrate your milestones with us at the library, and above all, read and enjoy with your child!

Log the books you read with your child on the reading log sheets in your starter packet. You can log any book that is read to your child—that includes books read by siblings, teachers, and librarians, as well as re-reading books over again.

For every **100** books you read, bring your reading logs back to the library so we can give your child a sticker for their Milestone Chart and celebrate their achievements. At 500 books, there is an extra prize incentive for making it to the halfway mark.

When you reach **1,000** books, your child will receive a certificate of achievement and a children's book as an award! We will also add a star with their name to our Wall of Reading Super Stars. The best part is that you've encouraged a lifelong love of reading with your child, and the confidence to start kindergarten reading.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can participate in this program?

Any child from birth until he or she enters kindergarten can participate.

How long will the program take?

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!

Do we have to read books from the library?

No, you can read books from anywhere. Just remember to log them on your reading log!

What if I have more questions?

Call us at 505-891-5013 or email libraryprograms@rrnm.gov.