

# BOULDER PUBLIC LIBRARY



## 1000 Books Before Kindergarten: Parent and Caregiver Information

Reading with your child every day is a great experience for both you and your child. You'll explore lots of different books together and find many new favorites! Benefits include:

- Positive interaction and bonding between child and adult (or young child and older child).
- Enjoyment of reading.
- Sense of achievement as milestones are reached.
- New vocabulary and language skills.
- Knowledge and understanding of different lives and experiences—both familiar and unfamiliar.
- Opportunity for conversation about a wide range of topics.
- Exploration and appreciation of different styles of illustrations.

### How to participate:

1. Stop in at any Boulder Public Library location to register or you can sign up online.
2. You will receive the first log (1 to 100 books) or you can print the log at home.
3. Every time you read a book, color in an acorn shape.
4. When you have read 100 books, bring your log to any Boulder Public Library location to check in and receive your next log. Your child will get a stamp and you can take a picture of your child with our library squirrel and post it on social media with #1000BooksB4K and #boulderpubliclibrary or #boulderlibrary
5. Keep reading! After every 100 books, come back to the library to check in and celebrate your progress.
6. When you've reached the goal of 1,000 books, you'll receive a certificate. Congratulations!

### You really can read a thousand books!

- You'll probably be reading mostly picture books which are fairly short. Almost all picture books take less than 10 minutes to read and many take less than 5 minutes.
- Anyone reading to your child counts toward the goal. Adult family members, older siblings, friends, and other caregivers can all help!

- If you attend storytime at the library, we usually read three or more books—all of which count toward the goal.
- If you read the same book more than once, each reading counts toward the goal!
- Nonfiction books count too!
- Reading just three books every day for one year will exceed 1000 books! (3 x 365 = 1095)

**TIPS:**

- Make reading a part of your daily routine. Bedtime is a great time to snuggle together and read, and there may be other times of day that work as family reading time.
- Have books available for your child to explore on their own. Baskets or bins are great for keeping books tidy and still within easy reach.
- Let your child choose a book for you to read and then you choose one—two books toward the goal of 1,000!
- Let reading be a fun and positive activity you do together. If your child is not in the mood for reading at the moment, don't force the issue—try again at another time.
- After reading a book, talk with your child about what happened in the story. Was it funny? Was it scary? What was your favorite part? Did you like the pictures?
- Write down the titles and authors of favorite books, so you can remember them later.
- If you find a book your child really enjoys, read it again and again—and again! As the story becomes familiar, see how much your child remembers. Explore the illustrations to see if you or your child notice extra details that you didn't see before. And remember, each time you read the book, it counts again toward the total of 1000 books!

**Remember:**

- Any child who has not yet entered kindergarten can participate, including babies and toddlers. If you read one book to more than one child, it counts for each child.
- Any book you read to your child is fine. If you want suggestions and ideas for new books to read, library staff would be happy to help!
- The important thing about reading with your child is the interaction between you, the child, and the story. You don't necessarily need to read every word every time and you can even retell a familiar story without a book.
- Reading the same book over and over is perfectly okay, and each reading counts toward the 1000. Each time the story is repeated, your child is learning it more thoroughly. After several readings, your child might be able to tell you the whole story!
- Tumblebooks and other ebooks or digital stories can be used as well. However, some book apps emphasize activities or a game instead of reading the book, so be sure to choose ones that present the whole story. As much as possible, be actively engaged with your child while using ebooks and apps, just as you would be with a paper book.