Frequently Asked Questions

Why is it so important to read to very young children?

Developing literacy skills begins at birth and continues through toddler and preschool years. The best way to ensure a child has the skills necessary to read is by reading to them. A well written picture book is 3x richer in vocabulary than conversation.

- Who can participate in this program?
 Any child from birth until he or she enters kindergarten.
- ➤ How long will the program take? The program is self-paced and will depend upon how often you read and how many books you read per day. It may take a few months to a few years.
- How many of my children can participate? Any of your children who have not yet started Kindergarten can join the program. We encourage your whole family to read together.
- Do we have to only read books from the library?

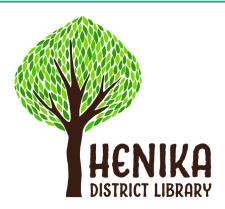
No, you can read any books you want. Just track them on your tracking sheet!

- Can I count a book more than once? Yes! Record the book on the tracking sheet as many times as you read it! Repetition is very good for babies and toddlers.
- ▼ Is there an App for that?

 Yes! Check out the 1000 Books Before

 Kindergarten Apple App by the 1000 Books

 Foundation.



Visit Your Library:

A Place to Grow!

149 South Main Street Wayland, MI 49348 (269) 792-2891 www.henikalibrary.org



Library Hours:

Monday 10 AM - 8 PM

Tuesday 9 AM - 6 PM

Wednesday 10 AM - 8 PM

Thursday 9 AM - 6 PM

Friday 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday 10 AM - 2 PM

Sunday CLOSED

Sign up at any Henika District Library desk!

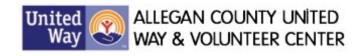


BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN



SPONSORED BY YOUR LIBRARY AND





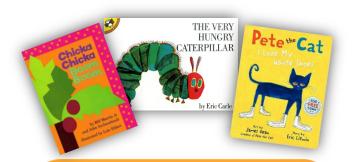
Dear Allegan County Parent,

You are **AWESOME** for joining this program! It is going to make a huge impact on your child. The Allegan County Library Association and Allegan County United Way have partnered to bring you 1000 Books Before Kindergarten to prepare your child for school.

How the Program Works:

- 1. Sign up at your home library and get your welcome packet and first tracking sheet.
- 2. Bring back your tracking sheet after you have read your first 100 books together. You've earned a tote bag!
- 3. After each tracking sheet come back to the library for another tracking sheet.
- 4. Visit the library ten times throughout the program to pick up your tracking sheets.
- 5. When you have read 1000 books, return to the library for a **special prize** and photo opportunity/celebration!
- 6. Most importantly, **read for the fun of it** and enjoy the time with your child!





WHAT DOES READING 1000 BOOKS LOOK LIKE?

1 book each day for 3 years

OR

10 books a week for 2 years

OR

20 books a week for 1 year

TALK SING READ WRITE PLAY

with your child and help them get ready to read!



"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children."

- U.S. Dept. of Education - Becoming A Nation of Readers



The American Academy of Pediatrics promotes reading to children daily, beginning in infancy:

"Reading aloud with young children is one of the most effective ways to expose them to enriched language and to encourage specific literacy skills needed to promote school readiness."