# Babies, Toddlers & Preschoolers

## How does 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten work?

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is a new early literacy program offered at the Campbellford Branch Library that promotes reading to newborns, infants and toddlers. It encourages parent/caregiver and child bonding through reading. The concept is simple, the rewards are priceless! Read a book (any book) to your newborn, infant, and/or toddler. While 1,000 books may seem like a lot, remember reading just one book to your child a night for a year is already 365! Don't forget that repeats count, so if your child has a favorite book that you read together over and over, each time you read it, it counts!

Studies have shown that families who start reading aloud to their children at birth help strengthen their language skills and build their vocabulary.

Learning to read starts way before Kindergarten. Print and sound awareness, print recognition and vocabulary all come from listening to their parents talk and read to them.

Reading together is fun and will create life-long memories for both of you. What a great way to bond with your precious child curled up with you while you read together!

There is even an iPhone app available online if you would prefer to track your reading that way!

## It's easy!

3 books a day for 1 year = 1,095 books 1 book a day for 3 years = 1,095 books



How it works (in a nutshell):

Visit the Children's Librarian (Brianne) at the Campbellford Branch Library to sign up any kids in your family that haven't already started kindergarten. It's never too early or too late to start!

## Step 2: Log books!

Keep track of how many books you read on our log (yes, repeated books count), then visit the library every 100 books to turn in your log and pick up a new one.

## **Step 3:** Earn prizes!

Every time you turn in a log, your child earns a sticker and gets to move their name up on our wall display. At 250, 500, 750 and 1000 books, they earn an even bigger prize!

## Step 4: Finish!

Congratulations - 1000 books!

When you reach 1,000 books we will help you celebrate with a small graduation ceremony for your child!



**Frequently Asked Questions:** 

#### Q: What books count?

A: Any books! Books from your own collection, books at story time, library books, audiobooks. If you are listening to a book and finish the whole thing, it counts. Don't forget to count the ones read by other people: day care, preschool, library story time, and siblings!

## Q: Can we read the same books over again?

A: Children love to hear the same books again and again. Repetition is great for children. Read the same book as often as you like – it counts each time!

## Q: What ages can participate?

A: The 1,000 Books program is intended for infants through five years old.

#### Q: We've finished 1,000 books. Now what?

A: Way to go! You've likely instilled a love of reading (and love of the library) in your child. Don't stop reading now! Continue to build your child's vocabulary and comprehension by continuing to introduce new books and reread beloved favorites.

## Q: Can more than one child participate?

A: Of course! Any child birth through age 5 is welcome to participate in the program until they start kindergarten!

## Q: When should my child sign up?

A: You may register any time, from birth through age five. It's never too early to start preparing your child for success!

## Q: Can we really read 1,000 books?

A: It's easier than you might think.

1 book/day for 3 years = 1,095 books!

3 books/day for 1 year = 1,095 books!