

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Can I sign up my child who is 3-4 years old?

Yes! All children can be signed up who are not yet enrolled in Kindergarten. You can count early literacy moments to move towards completion. Remember if you read 3 books a night every night, that is 1,095 books in one year! It is doable!

I don't want to give you my child's name. Can I still participate?

Yes! We are happy to use any name you'd like. Just remember the nickname that you create, so we can pull up your record as your child progresses.

My child likes to read the same book over and over. Does that count?

Yes! Every time you read a book, it counts. If you read it 10 times, it counts as 10 books.

Can I count books read in storytime?

Absolutely, and even more than that, you can count all of the early literacy moments that happen during storytime. Every book, every song, every fingerplay counts as one book!

Can I count books that others read to my child, such as grandparents, caregivers, older siblings, etc?

Yes! Every book read by everyone counts. They can simply write it on paper or give you a tally of every book that they read with your child. Remind them that rereading counts too!

Do I have to log titles of books?

No, that is an option only if you would like to do so. You can simply log up to 100 books at a time when you are finished with your log, or ask a library staff member to do it for you.

Do the books have to be library books?

No, they do not. You can read any books to your child, and they all count.

Do they have to be from the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten booklists?

No, those are simply suggestions. You are welcome to read any books that you and your child choose. You can also ask your librarian for additional recommendations.

Do I have to do the Early Literacy Moments sheet?

No, those are just suggestions. You can count any song/fingerplay or learning moment you share with your child. You can also choose to just read books.

Do audiobooks count, or books read on a device?

Yes! If the entire book is read, it counts. Check out Bookflix and Tumble books on our Kids page. They offer great picture books to enjoy with your child.

Do I have to put my child's name on the wall?

We suggest that children only put their first names, but you do not have to put your child's name on the wall if you are uncomfortable doing so. If you'd like, your child can draw a picture on the paper and we can hang that for them.

