



South Charleston Public Library (SCPL) offers resources and programming for young people (birth to 18 years) with the goal of promoting literacy, while simultaneously developing a lifelong love of reading and learning. Our Youth Services team of experienced professionals - led by a degreed professional librarian - is dedicated to supporting the information needs of young people and families. We truly want to make a difference for our community, one young reader at a time.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

SCPL is offering the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten (1000BBK) program for our youngest readers.

After significant research about the existing national program, SCPL chose to register as a 1000BBK program library with the non-profit, 1000 Books Foundation, whose mission states it is “..exclusively for charitable, literary, and educational purposes.” The objectives of the Foundation are: “to promote reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers; and to encourage parent and child bonding through reading.”

Per the 1000 Books Foundation research: *Numerous studies estimate that as many as one in five children have difficulties learning to read. Reading has been associated as an early indicator of academic success. Public formal education does not typically start until ages 5-6. Before then, parents and caregivers are the first education providers during the 0-5 early critical years. The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten challenge is a simple (read a book, any book to your child, with the goal of reading 1,000 before kindergarten) and very manageable endeavor.*

The goal of the program is to provide a simple, innovative yet fun approach to establishing strong early literacy skills. We help young children gain the confidence necessary to become strong readers.

As with any program offered by SCPL, the Youth Services team focuses on providing education-based and personalized programs customized for our participants. That being said, SCPL’s 1000BBK program works as follows:

- Sign up for a library card with SCPL
- Register your preschooler (birth to preschool) for the program
- Record books read to, with, and by your reader using program booklogs
- Visit the library each time 100 books have been read
- Attend library programs and events as able to promote a love of reading
- Show your reader’s completed logbook for certificate of completion and recognition



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