



1000 Books Before Kindergarten

SCPL offers the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten (1000BBK) early literacy 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.

The 1000 Books Foundation 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.”

Also from the 1000 Books Foundation:

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.

South Charleston Public Library (SCPL) Youth Services 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 team of experienced professionals - led by a degreed professional librarian with a background in education - 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.

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

- Sign up for a library card with SCPL (although books from anywhere count).
- Register your preschooler (age birth to preschool) for the program.
- Record books read to, with, and by your reader using program booklogs.
- Attend library programs and events that promote a love of reading.
- Visit the library with booklogs each time 100 books have been read to celebrate.
- Bring in your reader's completed logbook for certificate of completion and recognition.

Have fun, and let us know if you have questions!

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