

TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Talk to your child to help them learn to speak and understand the meaning of words.
- Point to objects and describe them as you play and do daily activities.
- Read to your child every day starting at birth.
- Use sounds, songs, gestures, and words that rhyme to help your child learn about language.
- Point out printed words in your home and places you take your child, such as the grocery store.
- Take children's books and writing materials with you when you leave home to provide your child with fun activities while traveling and going to appointments.
- Create a quiet, special place in your home for your child to read, write, and draw. Keep books and other reading materials where your child can easily reach them.
- Help your child see that reading is important. Set a good example for your child by reading printed books, newspapers, and magazines.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US

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**HAYWOOD COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

1000

**Books Before
Kindergarten**

ABOUT 1000 BOOKS



The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten early literacy challenge encourages families to read 1000 books together before a child begins kindergarten. Completing the challenge establishes skills to become strong readers.

Participate in the libraries 1000 BBK program and keep track of all books you read together. Your child will earn small rewards at various milestones.

For more information, visit <https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org/>



EARLY LITERACY PRACTICES



READ

Reading with your child helps develop their vocabulary, and encourages their interest in reading themselves.

WRITE

Pre-reading skills are learned by scribbling, drawing, and forming letters with paper and crayons or pencils that are easily accessible.

TALK

Speak to your child about day-to-day activities so they can learn new words and their meanings.



SING

Hearing songs, singing together, and simple music instruction helps a child read printed language.

PLAY

Children learn that spoken words stand for real objects when they play.



WHY IS EARLY READING IMPORTANT?



A child's brain develops most rapidly during the first 1000 days of life. Reading regularly with your child builds strong pathways in the brain which build language and literacy. Life-long benefits may include educational and occupational success.

Read one book a day with your child, and you will reach 1,000 books before your child turns 3.