



Instructions

Dear Parents/Caregivers:

The Hamilton Public Library is excited to have you participate in the **Free** program which encourages you to read 1000 books with your child before he or she starts kindergarten.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The concept is simple, the rewards are priceless. Read a book (any book) to your newborn, infant, toddler or preschooler. The goal is to have read 1,000 books (yes you can repeat books) before your precious one starts kindergarten. Does it sound hard? Not really if you think about it. If you read one book a night you will read about 365 books in a year that's 730 books in 2 years and 1095 books in 3 years. If you consider that most children start kindergarten at around 5 years of age you have more time than you think. (so get started).

The key is perseverance. The library is going to help make it exciting with small prizes and crafts for every 100 books read.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- Sign up and pick up your materials at the library!
- Read with your child. Studies have shown that reading with your child provides a great opportunity for **bonding**. Reading together is fun and will create life-long memories for the both of you. If you are able keep track of books read to your child by teachers and siblings and babysitters as well. They all count too!
- For every book read fill in a mark on your reading sheet that you get from the library.

FREQUENTLY-ASKED-QUESTIONS

- Who can participate in this program? *Any child from birth until he or she enters kindergarten can participate in the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Program.*
- How long will the program take? *The program will take anywhere from a few months to a few years. The program is self-paced and will depend upon how often you read together.*
- How many children can participate? *All of them (provided they have not yet started kindergarten.) Make it even more fun and read as a family!*