

Reading to your child is one of the most powerful ways to boost their brain power. The simple and enjoyable act of sharing books helps your child learn pre-reading skills such as understanding the sounds letters make, developing a bigger vocabulary, and building background knowledge – all important skills that help prepare your child for learning to read and entering kindergarten.

The *1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program*, sponsored by the Solon Public Library Foundation, is a fun, exciting, and free way to start your child on the path to success! Any child ages birth to five years can participate. Just follow these simple steps:

- **Pick up program materials** at the library, print them from our website (solon.lib.ia.us), or track digitally via READsquared (soloniowa.readsquared.com).
- **Track Your Reading**: Keep track of your books. Color in or mark off one circle on for each book you read. Use stickers for added fun!
- Every Book Counts: You can count the books your child hears in storytime, in daycare or preschool, or with a friend or family member. Does your child love to read the same book over and over again? Count it each time!
- **100-Book Milestones**: For each 100 books you read, bring in your reading record to the Library to receive a sticker and have your child's photo taken for our 1,000 Books Wall of Fame!
- **1,000 Books**: You did it! Come celebrate at the library! Come get your picture taken, your final sticker, and a free T-shirt!
- Keep on Reading: Don't stop at 1,000! Keep on reading; there's always more learning ahead.

Singing songs, saying rhymes, telling stories, and playing with your child are all great ways to build their literacy skills. Visit the Solon Library often for free programs that are fun and educational, and to find great books to share with your child.

