Ready, Set, Go...
to Kindergarten

Reading Challenge Instructions

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Enjoy bonding time together and encourage early literacy by reading 1000 books with your child before they enter kindergarten. Read on to learn more!

READY SET GO! COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE

POWERED BY
United Way
United Way of Greater Lorain County

ELYRIA PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

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Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Ready Set Go is a community-led initiative that works to ensure each Elyria child enters Kindergarten ready to learn, and we are inviting you to participate in our FREE Reading Challenge: 1000 Books Before Kindergarten. The goal is to read 1000 books with your child before he or she reaches kindergarten.

Program Overview

The idea is simple—read as much as you can, as often as you can and watch your child grow. The goal is to read 1000 books before your child enters kindergarten. It sounds like a lot but just one book a day is 365 books. That's 730 books in 2 years or 1,825 books by time the child is five!

The key is to just keep reading! Make it fun and enjoy the quiet time together. And when your child reaches a milestone come visit any branch of the Elyria Public Library for a prize.

How to Participate

- Read to your child. Research shows this is a great way to bond with your child and build life-long memories.

- Keep track of the books you have read. You can use one of our tracking sheets, the Beanstack program (either online or the app), or simply write the titles down in a spiral notebook. The records will become a special keepsake as you watch your child's interests grow.

- Any book counts including those read at daycare or preschool or by family members and friends.

- You don't have to buy 1000 books—get them for free using the resources available at **www.elyrialibrary.org**!

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Frequently Asked Questions

- Who can participate?
  Any child from birth until they enter kindergarten. Didn't start when your child was a newborn? That's ok—it is NEVER too late to start reading with your child!

- Can books be repeated?
  Of course! Children love repeating books—and it's a great way for them to learn.

- What are the milestones that earns prizes?
  Come visit any branch of the Elyria Public Library with your reading log to earn for your child a prize at the following milestones:
  - 100 books read
  - 250 books read
  - 500 books read
  - 750 books read
  - 1000 books read!!

- How long will the program take?
  This is a self-paced program. It may take a few months; it may take a few years; it may take until the day your child enters kindergarten. It depends on how often you read together. The key is to keep reading and enjoying books together.

- How many children can participate?
  Any child who has not yet started kindergarten. Read as a family—and yes, you can count a book for multiple children.

- I don't have a library card. How can I access books for my child?
  To sign up for an e-card, visit elyrialibrary.org and click on "No Card, No Problem" and sign up using your cell phone number.

  To get a physical library card, visit the library with your young reader and bring your photo ID. If the home address on your ID is not up to date, bring a piece of mail or a utility bill addressed to your current residency. Signing up takes only a few minutes, and you will receive your card that same day!

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- How do I access electronic media through Libby?

1. Install the Libby app from the app store on your Android, iOS (iPhone/iPad/iPod touch), or Windows 10 device; or visit libbyapp.com in your Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Edge browser.
2. In Libby, follow the prompts to find your library and sign in with a valid library card.
3. Browse your library's collection and borrow a title.
4. Borrowed titles appear under Shelf > Loans and download to the app automatically when you're on Wi-Fi, so you can read them when you're offline. From your Loans, you can:
   - I Tap Read With... to choose whether you would like to open a book in Kindle (U.S. libraries only) or Libby.
   - Tap Open Audiobook or Open Magazine to start reading or listening to that title.
   - Tap Manage Loan to see options like Renew and Return.

- How do I register for Beanstack?

1. Go to elyrialibrary.beanstack.org
2. Select Age Group. You will be asked if you want to register yourself or your child for some of the groups, register yourself first and then any children.
3. Fill out the simple form about you and/or your username, email, and password. The username and password will allow you to log in to the site in the future.

- How do I use Beanstack to track books?

1. Download the Tracker app from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store. Once you have opened the app, select Get Started.
2. Does Your School or Library Already Use Beanstack? Select Yup!
3. Search for Elyria Public Library System.
4. Don't have an account? Sign in.
5. Pick a username and password.