

HOW TO HOST

A Book Drive for Books for Kids



The book is magnificent, awesome, happy, and interesting. It helps me learn, and it helps me be smart.



It has been a pleasure reading all these wonderful books. I really cannot be more happier than I am right now.



Thanks for the two books. I would recommend these books to other people because they tell life stories that can happen any time.



Guess what? All the kids loved your books because I saw smiles all over.
Natalie, Manly West Primary.
Manly West, NSW



Books for Kids

Giving Kids In Need A Chance To Read



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Books for Kids

Giving Kids In Need A Chance To Read

BOOKS FOR KIDS Children's Literacy Program

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About Books for Kids

Mission, history, methods.

Our Methods To raise the next generation of readers, Books for Kids · provides new books to at-risk children to choose, keep, and treasure · engages parents and recruits community volunteers to read with children · helps schools and social service agencies operate successful literacy programs

Our Successes

Books for Kids promotes relationships—between a community and a school, between a parent and a child, between a child and a book. Founded as “ACLB ” in 1990, Books for Kids has placed many thousands of children’s reading material into the hands at-risk children through collaborations with schools, social service agencies, preschools, and early childhood centers across Australia.

Our Basis

Books for Kids operates on one simple and astounding fact—being read to as a youngster is the foremost predictor of academic success in childhood. A child who succeeds in school will remain there, earning a chance at a better job and a better life in the years ahead. A child who lacks early exposure to reading often suffers from low self-esteem, struggles academically, and is at higher risk for substance abuse, teen pregnancy, and delinquency. Succeeding begins with reading.

Children with literacy problems typically come from low-income families, have no books at home, and have caregivers who are not aware of the importance of reading to their children. Yet studies have shown that access to age-appropriate books and reading aloud to children are essential to developing language and reading skills.

It is estimated that only 62% of children can read at a basic level by the time they reach 4th grade. Among at risk children, the figures drop to 50%. However, if a child can read at grade level by 3rd grade, she will continue to read at grade level throughout her academic career.

Our Recipients

Books for Kids serves children from birth to age 12 who are considered to be at risk—those who live beneath the poverty line, receive English language tutoring, suffer from a Learning Disability (SLD) or read below grade level. By working with these children early in their learning process, Books for Kids helps build strong reading skills and prevents the problems created by illiteracy. This year, Books for Kids is targeting to provide 50,000 books to 25,000 children.



I love my book
“Space Facts and
Antartica.” I can’t
wait for my next
one. I can’t wait to
learn more about
space. Thank you for
I love them so much.

The ABC's of a Successful Book Drive

Techniques to help your book drive along.

Assemble the Basics

Who will participate?

Your organization, clients, the public, etc.

What will be collected?

New children's books or the money to purchase books. Books for Kids can deliver one new book and associated program services for about \$5.

When will the drive start and end?

Two to three weeks is the optimal length for a successful book drive.

Where will the books/money be collected and stored?

Books should be collected in a well-marked, high-traffic area and stored in a secure location.

Why is a book drive important?

To ensure that children from low-income families own the books that will help them learn to read.

How will people be encouraged to donate?

Through themes, incentives, publicity, and team spirit.

Begin with a Bang

Kick off the book drive at a meeting or event that promotes children's literacy and the book drive. Written materials, bookmarks, a video, collection boxes and a speaker. Use the event to explain the book drive and encourage participation.

Create some Excitement

Design an event that will inspire participation. Be sure to publicize the event and provide regular updates that let people know how many books have been collected. Highlight special contributions.

Determine a Goal

Choose a number that is meaningful to your organization: 100 books for 100 employees, or 5 books for every year your business has existed, or 1 book for each of the students at a nearby primary school.

Enjoy the Drive!



Thank you for "The Spell of Undoing by Paul Collins."
The thing that makes this book good is it makes me smarter. I can't wait to read it!

Book Drives at Schools

Tips for teachers and students.

Let the Students Organize

When students organize the event, they learn about community service. Your role is to guide them and help them when they encounter problems.

You might begin by discussing with your students different sorts of 'drives': book drives, food drives, clothing drives, etc. Discuss what and how a drive is organized.

Based on that discussion let the students create committees. You might need any of the following: letter writers, publicists, book collectors, book organizers, and perhaps a book-drive celebration committee.

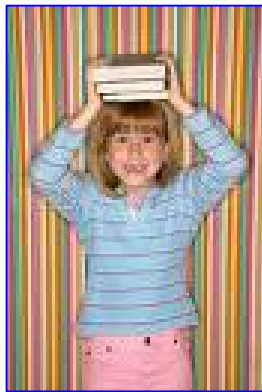
Committees will create goals for the book drive and set responsibilities based on these goals.

After goals have been set and supplies provided you'll need posters, letters for students to take home, boxes to collect the books in, and book-o-meters for displaying your book collection progress. Make just one for a main area, or make several for the classrooms.

After the book drive is complete, host a party to celebrate your success. It's an opportunity for kids to reflect on the experience. It's a good opportunity for photographs, too.

Let the book drive begin!

Boxes should be in each classroom and in the main office. You'll want visitors to know what's happening. As the boxes fill up, have the book collectors pick up books. If you'd like to save Books for Kids some work, have the kids separate the books based on grade level. Once your drive is complete give us a call. We can pick up the books or you can drop them off. If you'd like, bring a couple of the students or organizers along and we can give them a tour of our office. We'd welcome another chance to thank the students.



I loved my books they
were adventures. I
specelly liked the
"Three Little Pigs."
How they built there
homes. I am glad your
company gaved us
books.

Book Drives at the Workplace

Best practices for companies collecting books for Books for Kids.

Make it Visible

Put collection boxes in the company lobby, lunchroom, or any place employees regularly pass or congregate. Be sure to specify that new books are sought.

Make Suggestions

Distribute or display Book for Kids book wish list.

Make a Match

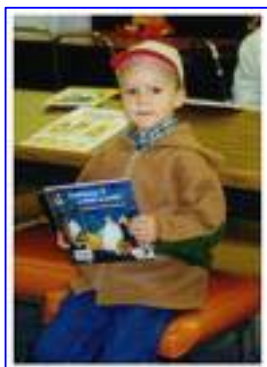
Donate \$10.00 to Books for Kids instead of a book, or as a match to each book donated. Or arrange with your company to make an additional financial donation totaling the retail value of books donated by employees. Because of special arrangements with publishers, Books for Kids can buy books for less than retail prices, making the most of your cash contributions. But keep in mind that some people prefer to give books rather than money; when people donate a book, it creates a strong emotional connection to the drive.

Make it Count

Let people know that they can order books through the link to Angus & Robertson's or Collins Books on Books for Kids website. Individuals can go on-line, make their purchases, and have the books shipped directly to Books for Kids. Not only do we receive the new books for our programs, but Bookshops also donates up to 15% of any purchases made through the web link from Books for Kids.

Make a Partnership

We have partnership opportunities galore. Contact us to find out more about these and other partnerships at our website: [www.booksforkids.org.au/contact us](http://www.booksforkids.org.au/contact-us)



Thank you for
these fantastic
books. It was very
generous of you to
buy them. It came
out of your
wallet. You were
kind to buy them.

Our Wish List

The new books children want the most.

0 – 5

There's a Hippopotamus on My Roof Eating Cake *Hazel Edwards & Deborah Niland*

Where is the Green Sheep? *Mem Fox & Judy Horacek*

Uno's Garden *Graeme Base*

Where's Stripey? *Wendy Binks*

5 – 7

Are We There Yet? *Alison Lester*

Diary of a Wombat *Jackie French & Bruce Whatley*

Doodledum Dancing *Meredith Costain & Pamela Allen*

I've Lost my Kisses *Trudie Trewin & Nick Bland*

7 – 9

The Big Big Big Book of Tashi *Anna Fienberg & Kim Gamble*

The Cat On The Mat Is Flat *Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton*

If the Shoe Fits *Krista Bell & Craig Smith*

9 – 12

Specky Magee & the Season of Champions *Felice Arena & Garry Lyon*

The Key to Rondo *Emily Rodda*

The Keys to The Kingdom: Lady Friday *Garth Nix*

Viking Magic: Runestone *Anna Ciddor*

Quentaris: The Spell of Undoing *Paul Collins*

12+

Master of the Books *James Moloney*

Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan *John Flanagan*

The Red Tree *Shaun Tan*

Trust Me! (Intro by Isobelle Carmody)

Tomorrow, When the War Began *John Marsden*

Bereavement Books

Someone Very Important Has Just Died *Mary Turner*

Helping Children Cope with the Loss of a Loved One *William C. Kroen*

Healing a Child's Grieving Heart *Alan D. Wolfelt*



I thank you for
the books there so
good. I think its
improved are
reading. They've
inspiyered us for
reading. We realy
need them. So if
you are kind

How Your Support Helps Children

What Teachers and Parents say about Books for Kids?

What Teachers Say About Books for Kids

“Books for Kids provide children with something they treasure and parents with something they couldn’t afford.”
Manly West Primary School

“I cannot tell you how many students have come to thank me personally for bringing the Books for Kids program to our school. Many of our students do not have books at home. It is a very big deal for these students to get something new and to have their name written on the book plate inside the cover.”
Loreto College

“The variety and assorted levels of books presented to our school was well done. Some of our students may have window shopped a bookstore but have never had the chance to step over the threshold.”
Mayfield West School

“Many of our families are unable to purchase books, and the Books for Kids books provide reading material for the home. During our book distribution, we encourage the children to write their name on the bookplate. They are so proud and happy to say that this is ‘my book!’”
St Patrick’s Primary School

“Our students love having their very own books to keep. They love showing them to others and talking about the stories once they have read them. It is such a positive experience for many kids whose positive experiences are few and far between.” Orchard Grove Primary School

“You really see the joy of ownership in their eyes when they hug their very own book close to their heart.”

Ringwood Heights Primary School

Thank you for having “Storms” as one of your picking books. I choose storms because I love watching storms.

Tylah,
Lara Lakes Primary School

What Parents Say About Books for kids?

“Special thanks to you for helping us to build a library of our own in our own home. We love to read and enjoy the new books you gave us.”

Amy D.

“My child is 12 months old. I read her the book before bedtime. Her face brightens up. I don’t want reading to be a battle for her.”

Sarah Z.

“Thanks so much for sharing the gift of books with our kids. What joy I’m receiving now from my own grandchild reading stories to me! Our favorite thing to do at home is read.”

Madeline M.

“As a single parent, there’s rarely enough money at the end of the month to purchase books—especially of this quality. We’ve had a great time reading them as a family.”

Staci K.

“Ashley loves to read. I gave her a book that she can be challenged by with puzzles and brain teasers. She is having fun while she reads. Having fun and loving to read are the keys to success.”

Mary S.

“Thank you for helping my daughter with her reading. She now feels much more confident and reads many things around her, such as signs. She has realized the value of reading and you’ve helped her on this wonderful journey.”

Miriam P.

Other Ways to Support Books for Kids

A book drive may be just the beginning.

Volunteer

Last year, 200 volunteers spent 1,000 hours sorting/packing books, reading to children, preparing bulk mailings, organizing book drives, designing our web site, and updating our database. We are happy to work with individuals or with groups of volunteers on a regular or occasional basis.

A volunteer might:

- Serve on the board of directors or a board committee.
- Count, sort, and inventory children's books.
- Help children select and read books.
- Assist with office support.
- Raise funds: Identify donors, find sponsors, write grants.

Donate Money or Stock

We have negotiated with publishers to receive deep discounts on books. Therefore, your cash contribution goes even further toward preventing illiteracy. Our Community makes it easy for you to contribute online. You can also mail donations to our offices by printing the online form. Visit booksforkids.org.au to explore these options, or give us a call.

Shop through our Online Bookshops

Every time you use the link on booksforkids.org.au to visit Angus & Robertson Bookstores online, Books for Kids receives a donation of the price of your purchase—from books to stationary! This charitable donation from the Bookshops Program doesn't cost you a thing and benefits Books for Kids. Make your shopping dollars count for more: shop at bookshops via booksforkids.org.au



I didn't like reading
but now I do. All
because of you now I
LOVE to read! I
practice a lot I tell
you, a lot, a lot, a
lot, I tell you A
LOT!

Amy, St Anthony's