

Our

BOOK REPORT

THE BOOKSTART FUND • CHAPTER FOUR • DECEMBER 2015

The BookStart Fund: 18 Months and Running!

What a success our donors have led us to! There has been a steady increase in donations to the BookStart Fund since we started it in the spring of 2014. Both

repeated and new donations show how happy people are to help ensure that little children in our community are raised with books and read-aloud times at home.

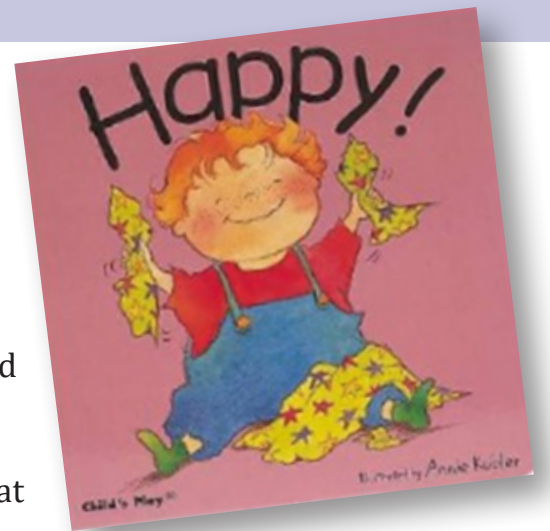
By 18 months...

Most babies are walking.

The BookStart Fund is running!

BookStart is ready to expand. We want to reach more parents in our community who have not yet discovered the pleasure and importance of reading to their young children.

Thanks to our many generous donors, we are now confident that we will be able to provide high-quality books for children from birth to three years of age for even more families. We are looking for programs serving parents of very young babies and children who most likely do not have access to the kind of books we provide. We would like to partner with agencies, providing books and information on how to present the books for maximum effectiveness.



How we spend your donations...

We have now passed \$21,500 in donations!

Thank you!!

We have spent \$20,532 of that (so far) on 8,775 books—about \$2.34 each. The retail cost of those books was from \$4.00 to \$8.25, so the total cost for them could have been over \$44,000. That's why we solicit your monetary donations rather than asking you to buy books to donate! We work diligently to stretch your dollars, without sacrificing our strict standards for the quality and appropriateness of the books.



How we select the books...

Some donors have asked how we pick the books we purchase. Here are seven criteria that we believe make successful read-aloud books for children. They should:

- ☞ Appeal to both children and adult readers—books that are fun for both parent and child are more likely to be read and re-read!
- ☞ Include rhyme and rhythm, repetition and predictability—babies and toddlers need to hear language that sings and soothes and delights.
- ☞ Include illustrations that invite close examination—good illustrations entice children and adults to talk about what they are seeing and to relate it to their own lives.

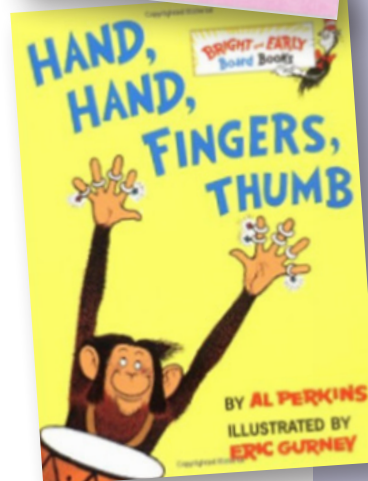
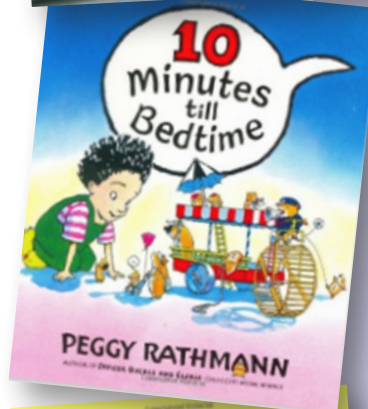
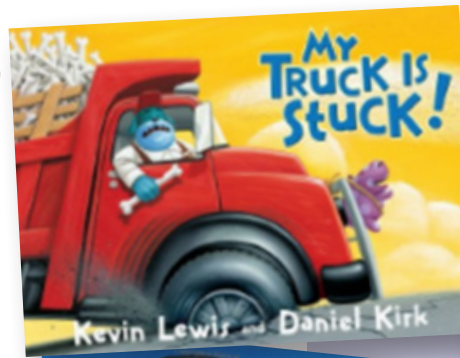
- ☞ Show diversity in the characters—all children should see themselves in some of their books, sometimes as the main character!
- ☞ Present loving and wholesome relationships among the characters and teach kindness by example—children can learn to care about others through stories.
- ☞ Be appropriate for the child's age, in both the words and the pictures. Good children's stories appeal to a broad age range. In general children in the story should match the listening child's age.
- ☞ Be fun and imaginative! Children can learn such concepts as numbers, letters, colors and shapes from books that are first of all fun and interesting!

BookStart Fund Donors

* Marks new donors since last newsletter
! Marks donors who have given more than once

Kathy Adair
 Adie & Dick Baach !
 Brian & Liz Banse !
 Stephany Bourne
 Cathy Brown
 Liz & Stephen Brown *!
 Isa & Betty Canavati !
 Kathy & Alan Candiotto
 Betsy & Howard Chapman *
 WeiLi Chen
 Will & Nena Clark
 Ginny & Will Clark !
 Sarah & Sherrill Colvin *
 Chris & Anne Coon
 Crown Philanthropic *
 Lorraine Davis
 George & Nancy Dodd !
 Brenda Doden
 Julie & John Donnell/Shoaff
 Joyce Dulworth *
 Jack & Tammy Dyer
 Fred & Tina Eckart
 Ben & Sharon Eisbart
 Susan Eisenhower & Marc Levy
 Claire Ewart
 Rich & Sue Ferguson !
 Helen Frost
 Lenny & Rikki Goldstein
 Alan & Maureen Grinsfelder
 Sandy & Jay Habig
 Dan Hales
 Susan & Mike Horton
 Bob Howard *
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 Marva Komisarow
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 Regina Leffers !
 Alison & Max Levy
 Jeanne & Steve Lewis !
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 Michael Mastrangelo
 Mick & Sue McCollum
 Susie & Dave Meyer !
 Scott Miller
 George & Mary Morrison !
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 Martha Noel
 Rick & Penney Phillips !
 Randy & Carol Roberts
 Mimi Rolland !
 Joan & John Ruble *
 Chris & Mark Rupp *
 Annie & Jim Skinner *
 Vaun Smith !
 Todd & Janet Stephenson
 David & Nancy Stewart !
 Heather Strzelecki *
 Dolores Tomusk
 Irene Walters *
 Dana Wichern !
 M&M Terence Wogan
 Mack & Linda Wootton
 Debra & Remound Wright
 Frank & Judy Wright



How To Help

Mail a check payable to the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne (write BookStart on the memo line) to:

Community Foundation
 555 East Wayne Street
 Fort Wayne IN 46802

Or go to cfgfw.org and donate on line. Write "BookStart" as the special fund.

For questions:
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