



Book Report from *The BookStart Fund*

Winter 2020

“Getting babies and books together”

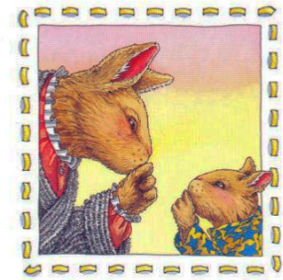
BookStartFund.org

Turning Songs into Books



Little Birds, and illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton. The refrain, “Don’t worry about a thing, ‘cause every little thing’s gonna be all right” should be comforting words to children and their parents in this stressful time. Like the book we distributed last summer, “I Calm Down,” this book will probably be welcomed by the agency staff and the parents who will receive it.

These two books (among others) will be given to over 380 children in the coming weeks by the nine BookStart Partner Agencies. Both books are delightful in their own right, but they will be especially helpful and treasured at this time by the families we serve who are dealing with many challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.



Hush little baby, don’t say a word, Mama’s going to to show you a hummingbird.

“Hush, Little Baby” is also based on a familiar song, but author-illustrator Sylvia Long has changed the words and thus the message. In the original song, the mama comforts her baby by promising to buy all sorts of expensive presents, like a mockingbird, a diamond ring, a horse and cart.



Run to the playground, laugh with my friends and play. Three little birds, perch on the swing set, whistling these words, these harmonies sweet in the air. Sometimes you just need to show you care....

In a note on the last page, Sylvia Long writes “It seems much healthier to encourage children to find comfort in the natural things around them and the warmth of a mother’s love.” In this beautifully illustrated book, the mama comforts her child by showing the little one a hummingbird, the evening sky, a shooting star, a lightning bug, and the moon. And then they read a book together (of course!) and she sings a lullaby.

“Every Little Thing” was adapted by his daughter Cedella Marley from Bob Marley’s song, Three

Both of these books might make treasured gifts for a young family on your list!

From the Director's Desk



Ginny Clark and some of her favorite books!

During the eight months of the Covid-19 pandemic, the BookStart Partner Agencies have each had to be creative to find ways to continue their services to their clients. For much of that time they have needed fewer books, but gradually their book requests have increased. Our hope is that this Book Report will inspire you to give generously to the BookStart Fund. One hundred percent of your donations to the BookStart Fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne are spent on buying the books that go to the parents of young children being served by our partners.

“Much time and care goes into finding just the right books at a large discount, usually at 50% off. I keep a copy of each book in my office—maybe for inspiration as much as for historical record! To keep this program going, I hope you will be generous. (See How to Donate on page 4.)

Here are some comments I've received recently from three of our nine Partners:

“The books have been critical for our clients during this time. Clients look forward to the books we leave at their doorstep, along with other items, as we continue to do telehealth home visits.”

Jackie Martinez, Healthier Moms and Babies

“On our return to “normalcy” we picked up right where we left off with distributing books to families. Our Fatherhood Engagement program has become more involved in requesting books for their families, and every so often I get several requests from our court ordered programs (Family Restoration and Intervention - i.e. supervised visitation). Our staff have been back in homes delivering books and some have even remarked that the children they missed while doing virtual visits were happy to receive their books again.”

Carol Deakins, SCAN, Healthy Families and other parenting programs

“I just received all the books and I'm so moved and touched by this gift. Thank you for allowing us to bless our teen moms and babies! We get the joy of seeing their delight, the wonder and anticipation of opening each book. It is a true act of caring for each other, especially our little ones. I so appreciate all the work you do to extend this opportunity to grow and learn to the moms and babies.”

Julie VonGunten, Young Lives

Bookstart Partner Agencies

Bright Point Early Head Start — mybrightpoint.org

Children First Center — childrenfirstcenter.org

Healthier Moms and Babies — healthiermomsandbabies.org

Just Neighbors Interfaith Homeless Network — ihnfamily.org

Rescue Mission: Charis House — frwm.org

SCAN: Healthy Families and other programs — scanfw.org

Vincent Village — vincentvillage.org

Young Lives — younglivesfwn.younglife.org

YWCA Shelter — ywcanein.com

Visit BookStartFund.org to learn more about our partners

Thank You to our 2020 Donors!

This list recognizes our donors from 12/12/2019 - 11/30/2020. We are grateful for you!

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IN HONOR OF

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FROM

Karen Schwichtenberg
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Shannon Hardiek
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Chris Rupp

Honoring a friend or a loved one with your donation is the perfect holiday gift for the person who has everything!

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The BookStart Fund
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Questions? Contact Ginny Clark at 260-625-3837



Another page from "Hush Little Baby"