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"1,000 books read before kindergarten"



Some parents and siblings have been putting in a lot of lap time as 19 preschoolers recently received awards for having “read” 1,000 books before they even enrolled in kindergarten. Marci Retzlaff, Norfolk Public Library Assistant Youth Services Librarian, said the program- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten - is designed to help parents prepare their children for school.

“There have been many studies that have shown the most effective way to get your child ready to learn is to read to them. This program was designed to let parents and caregivers know that the time taken to read to a child is some of the most rewarding time they can spend with them,” Retzlaff said.

When a parent registers a child for the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program at the library, they receive a reading log to keep track of their reading and tips to make reading aloud enjoyable. Every time 100 books are read to the child, they earn special prizes at the library and a new book. When 1,000 books have been read, the child participates in a special graduation ceremony and is honored with a certificate, a snack and of course, a new book.

For more information about the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program, call 402-844-2100 or email mretzlaff@ci.norfolk.ne.us or kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us.