We're helping students meet kindergarten ready.

SUPPORTING EMERGENT LITERACY SKILLS
ENGAGING THE WHOLE FAMILY
ENCOURAGING A LOVE OF READING AND LEARNING

Our Urgent Work

Books for Kids promotes literacy among preschool-aged children in under-resourced communities. We create libraries and implement literacy programs in order to help children develop the critical early literacy and social-emotional skills they need to be successful in kindergarten and beyond.

According to the Harvard Center on the Developing Child, it’s currently estimated that in the first few years of a child’s life more than one million new neural connections are being formed every second. And these connections provide strong or weak foundations for the connections that form later. Birth through five is a brief but urgent window of time to give children the most solid foundation we can for literacy, positive mental health, and future fulfillment.

The inability to read on level by third grade is an early warning that a student is at increased risk for not graduating high school. Without graduating, the possibility that they will experience poverty and/or homelessness as an adult grows.

Literacy is the key to navigating so much of our world; it is- at its heart- a tool of agency, even in childhood. Far too many children lack access to the books they need to support their emergent literacy, putting their future health and happiness at risk. Our work is to provide that access through the creation of libraries and literacy programs, providing safe, transformational spaces filled with books that allow children to make choices, learn, and grow.

100% of our school directors say that Books for Kids improves their students’ literacy skills.

17.5K books were added to home, school, and shelter library collections during the last academic year.

22.5K children had increased access to books during the 21-22 school year thanks to our libraries, programs, and partnerships.

BOOKS FOR KIDS IS A NATIONAL 501C3 ORG WITH ITS HEART IN NYC
EIN 13-3539811 | INFO@BOOKSFORKIDS.ORG