

Beloit Daily News
July 2014

All things being relative, *one thousand* can either be a very large number or a very small number. Consider this: one thousand days spent on a sunny tropical island with family and loved ones surrounded by servants and all the food and drink you could possibly desire sounds simply divine. One thousand days on that same island surrounded by biting insects, your only company being that one coworker that the heavens put on earth to teach you grace and patience, and with nothing to eat but mushy bananas and rotten coconuts sounds purely demonic. Someone giving you one thousand dollars for your birthday? Great! Someone giving you one thousand potatoes to peel by hand? Not so great.

So, how about reading one thousand books to your child before he or she reaches Kindergarten? It may sound daunting, but it is actually easier than you might think. Reading just one book a day will get you to one thousand books in less than three years. Reading three books a day will get you to one thousand in just under one year. Throw in the fact that reading to your child has many benefits including the development of language skills and strong reading skills and reaching that 1000 books goal seems easy.

The Beloit Public Library is happy to join all of the libraries in Rock County in launching the *1000 Books Before Kindergarten Early Literacy Initiative*. You and your child can participate in this program by visiting the Youth Services Desk at the library to register. Once you register, you just track the books you read and for every 100 books read, your child will receive a small prize. To register online or for more information visit www.1000books.org

Like us on Facebook and visit us online at www.beloitlibrary.info and be sure to check out these books coming soon to your Beloit Public Library:

Daddy's Zigzagging Bedtime Story by Alan Lawrence Sitomer. What do a truck-driving princess, space aliens who burp fire, and Kung-Fu pigs have in common? They're all a part of the most epic bedtime story ever! When Jake and Jenny turn down every book Daddy tries to read before bed, he decides to make up his own story. (Book Description)

The Dolphin Way: A Parent's Guide to Raising Healthy, Happy and Motivated Kids – Without Turning Into a Tiger by Shimi Kang. In this inspiring book, Harvard-trained child and adult psychiatrist and expert in human motivation Dr. Shimi Kang provides a guide to the art and science of inspiring children to develop their own internal drive and a lifelong love of learning. Drawing on the latest neuroscience and behavioral research, Dr. Kang shows why pushy “tiger parents” and permissive “jellyfish parents” actually hinder self-motivation. (Book Description)

The Learning Habit: A Groundbreaking Approach to Homework and Parenting that Helps Our Children Succeed in School and Life by Stephanie Donaldson-Pressman. *The Learning Habit* offers a blueprint for navigating the maze of homework, media use, and the everyday stress that families with school-age children face; turning those “stress times” into opportunities to develop the eight critical skills kids will need to succeed in college and in the highly competitive job market of tomorrow – skills including concentration and focus, time management, decision-making, goal-setting, and self-reliance. (Book Description)