



## Book'em - Bringing Kids and Books Together

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### Enrich a Child's Life through the Gift of Books

Imagine growing up in a home without a single book.

For too many children in Nashville, Tennessee, it's a way of life. Families that are struggling to survive economically cannot encourage their children's literacy by purchasing books. It's also true that many parents in low-income families do not read well themselves . . . or may not be able to read at all.

The mission of Book'em is to create a more literate Nashville by helping economically disadvantaged children from birth through high school discover the joy and value of reading through book ownership and enthusiastic volunteers. We believe that every child needs books of his and her own in addition to the books they have access to at school or in the local library. Having their own personal books motivates children to read and to love reading. This in turn helps them to develop and advance in their reading skills. Reading is one of the most important tools we can give a child to ensure success in school, self-sufficiency and the ability to play a contributing role in society. When a child loves to learn, opportunities greatly increase.

Book'em now distributes more than 40,000 books annually to children ages 0-18 from low-income families throughout Nashville. Our Books for Nashville's Kids program works with schools, companies, groups, and more to get books into the hands of the children and teens who need them most.

Would you be surprised to find out that most of those books were donated to Book'em? They come from individuals, families, businesses, Scout troops, clubs, congregations, schools, and community organizations. Please visit our website ([www.bookem-kids.org](http://www.bookem-kids.org)) and learn how you can help enhance the lives of children by fostering a love of books and reading.

Whether it's a gift of one book or a thousand, your donation is much appreciated and will be sure to find a good home.

**A house without books is like a room without windows.**

*Horace Mann, great American advocate of public education, 1796-1859*