

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 is a way of life. Families that are struggling to survive economically often 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 and ignite children's passion for reading through book ownership and enthusiastic volunteers. We envision a future in Nashville where all children own books and know first-hand the joy and value of reading. We believe that every child needs books of his and her own in addition to the books that they have access to at school or in the local library. Having their own personal books that they have chosen for themselves motivates children to read and to love reading. This in turn helps them to develop and advance in their reading skills and identify as life-long readers. 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 abound.

Book'em now distributes more than 70,000 books annually to children ages 0-18 from underserved families throughout Davidson County. Our Books for Nashville's Kids program partners with schools, businesses, non-profits, religious institutions, 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 the majority of these books are donated to Book'em? They come from individuals, families, companies, civic groups, clubs, congregations, schools, and community organizations. Please visit our website (www.bookem-kids.org) to learn how you can help enhance the lives of children by fostering a love of reading through the gift of books.

Whether it's 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





