



Operation StoryBook Reader Registration

Frequently Asked Questions

Contact:

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When:

Week of April 24th
9 – 11 a.m. and 2 – 5 p.m.

Where:

All 15 Sheltering Arms Centers



[View a map of our Atlanta locations!](#)

What:

An opportunity to share a story and begin the love of reading in the life of a child.

WHAT IS OPERATION STORYBOOK?

Operation StoryBook is a week long read-a-thon in all 15 of our centers that kicks off the school year with a big buzz around reading. Community partners and volunteers help bring books alive by sharing their favorite stories with our kids. Well told stories have power for young children that develop a love and understanding of language that is the precursor to strong reading skills.

WHAT WILL I DO?

Each volunteer will spend 30 minutes to an hour sharing books and stories in a Sheltering Arms classroom, under the supervision of professional Sheltering Arms teachers. We serve infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

Be A Reader: Come read a book to one of our classrooms. You may bring age-appropriate books yourself to share, or you may use books that we have on hand in each classroom's library. Children can cycle through sleepy, energetic, and attentive many times during the day, so you may be asked to read to an entire classroom during story time, or you may read to individuals or small groups of children during their learning center time. You might even be asked to read on the playground!

Show and Tell: Do you have an interesting hobby or show-and-tell item that relates to a children's book? Come and share!

Fun, Games, and Drama: Exercise your creativity to think of an entertaining, playful way for children to explore a story. Do a puppet show. Narrate a story and have the children act it out. Sing your story or play an instrument and let children retell a story through dance. Bring an age-appropriate art or craft activity related to a favorite children's story, or volunteer to assist children in a literacy-related project we provide. Use costumes, props, and storytelling skills to bring stories alive for children.

WHEN WILL I BE NEEDED?

You may choose a 30 minute or 60 minute time slot between the hours of 9:00-11:00AM and 2:00-5:00PM. Please report 15 minutes before your assigned reading time. If you complete the activity you've prepared and still have time left, we welcome you to join in with the children in their daily activities.

WHERE WILL I VOLUNTEER?

Sheltering Arms has 15 centers in Cobb (Marietta), DeKalb (Chamblee, East Atlanta), Douglas (Douglasville), Fulton (Atlanta, College Park, East Point, Union City, Dunbar), and Gwinnett (Lawrenceville, Norcross) counties. Each center will hold a Read-A-Thon.



Sheltering Arms

OPERATION STORYBOOK

Contact:

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Sheltering Arms Early Education
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WHAT SHOULD I WEAR

Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes appropriate for playing with kids and doing arts & crafts. Please no dangling earrings, long necklaces, revealing clothing or clothing with inappropriate slogans or pictures.

TIPS FOR GUEST READERS *Source: Reading is Fundamental*

- Choose a story that can be completed in one sitting. Be sure to read the book in advance to develop a feel for the book’s language and pace.
- Set the stage by asking a question that will engage children in the story they are about to hear. It can be a question based on the title of the book, the book cover, or some hint about what may happen in the story that will help younger children anticipate what is about to come.
- Tell the children the name of the author. Show their name on the book.
- Do not be afraid to use showmanship to get the story across. Modulate your voice as you move from character to character or perform a series of pantomimes to convey the story.
- Be flexible. Plan to read in segments of about 10 minutes to accommodate children’s varied attention spans. There are opportunities to read to children in large groups, small groups, and as individuals.
- Do not rush through the story, but stop now and then to ask questions, to explain the meaning of an event, or to let children look at the pictures.
- Use props, costumes, or music to make the story come alive. Some volunteers wear crazy hats or dress up as storybook characters.
- Make your reading interactive by holding up a picture book and asking children to explain what is happening or predict what is going to happen. To get children really involved, choose a story in which they can echo a phrase or chime in on a refrain.
- Kids need a sense of closure, so be sure to leave plenty of time to finish the story.
- Click [here](#) to watch this video on how to read to kids.
- Click [here](#) for a list of suggested books.
- Share your experience with friends and family by taking an Operation StoryBook Selfie and sharing on Facebook or Twitter - #osb2014!

For children age birth to 3 choose...	For children age 3 to 6 choose...
Board books Books with simple, clear pictures with or without words ABC books with pictures of common objects Poems, songs and rhymes Books that let children explore the five senses, with different textures, smells, sizes, shapes, colors, and sounds	Stories about everyday things and experiences Simple stories, lots of action, quick and steady pace Main characters about the same age as the children Playful animals, both real and pretend Books that show and classify many different objects (cars, animals, tools, etc.) Books with rhymes, rhythms, or catchy phrases children can repeat with you