

# BOOKS ON BREAK

## 2025 Final Report



**17,740 Elementary School Students**

harvested books to take home and keep forever

**177,400 Brand New Children's Books**

are now filling home libraries

**51 North Carolina Counties**

held Books on Break through schools and summer programs



Book Harvest's Books on Break program partners with school districts and organizations to enable PreK and elementary school students to select ten brand-new books to take home and keep forever, right before or during summer break.

Books on Break 2025 reached 10,420 elementary school students in 30 schools across eight North Carolina counties with 104,200 new books. In addition, 7,320 students in summer programs across 47 N.C. counties self-selected 73,200 new books.

# Books on Break 2025 Impact

*Surveys were collected from 296 caregivers—and the results speak volumes:*

**99%** felt that the summer program supported their child's learning—thanks in part to the Books on Break experience.

**92%** of parents said the new books motivated their child to read over the summer.

**92%** believed their child's reading skills improved during the break.

**80%** observed that their child read more often than during previous summers.

*Oh my gosh! This is the book I was just telling my mom I wanted!*  
-Student

*I'm just surprised he is reading. He doesn't like to read.*  
- Parent

*We are extremely grateful to partner with Book Harvest for our students to receive literacy support, especially over the summer. I look forward to the great work that is to come for our students and teachers in this partnership.* -Media Coordinator

*My grandchild jumped in the car very excited saying, "Look at the new books I have!" Later that night we together went through the books reading the titles and doing a picture walk to determine which book he was going to read first.*  
- Grandparent

*Both my children were excited to get home and flip through each book and show me what they were about. They lined them up as to start their own library. Very heart warming.*  
-Parent

## The 2025 Books on Break program was done in partnership with:

Anna Reilly and Matthew Cullinan  
Barker and Cavett French  
Barnes Family Foundation  
Bladen County Schools  
Buncombe County Schools  
Burke County Public Schools  
Carolina Community Academy  
Durham Public Schools  
Duke Community Affairs  
Duke Energy Foundation

Ginger Young and Jonathan Wiener  
Granville County Public Schools  
Haywood County Schools  
Holly Brown  
JES Avanti Foundation  
Kenan Charitable Trust  
Lexington City Schools  
National Center for Families Learning  
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction  
Person County Schools  
Sandy Heard and Scott Pruitt

## ABOUT BOOK HARVEST

Book Harvest works to realize a world of literacy and justice for all—a world in which every child grows up with an abundant home library from birth and with a love of books, reading, and learning, and every parent feels supported, celebrated, and affirmed in their role as their child's first teacher. Since 2011, children have harvested more than 2.8 million books to build their home libraries, ensuring that parents have the tools and power to ignite and strengthen their children's literacy. With programs grounded in evidence, Book Harvest believes that literacy starts at birth, in the home, powered by parents, and nourished with books.



book harvest