CONGRATULATIONS
2020 BOOK BABIES GRADUATES

This year we did graduation a little differently! Since we were not able to have a graduation for our twenty-nine graduates, we brought graduation to their homes. Each graduate received a graduation box which held their diploma, tassel, Ready4K materials, early literacy supplies and a puzzle. We are very proud of our Book Babies graduates and thankful for the five-year partnership we’ve had with their families. Congratulations graduates and families. Kindergarten, here they come!

COMMUNITY

We stand in solidarity against injustice and hate, we stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement and we hold in mind parents and caregivers of color who protect and create safe spaces for their children. We understand that talking about race can be difficult and even more so when talking to our kids about it. Below we have gathered some resources that include books, videos, articles and more that can help start the conversation with our children.

Talking about Racism With our Children

- Abriendo Puertas – Opening Doors Many helpful resources in English and Spanish on how to start the conversation about inequality and social justice with your children. https://tinyurl.com/y9e5ydsq

- Child Trends Resources to support children’s emotional well-being amid anti-black racism, racial violence and trauma. https://tinyurl.com/yyx9v28t

- Black Lives Matter Coloring Book A coloring book designed to help conversations on race and the values of Black Lives Matter. Download for free in English, Spanish or Arabic! https://tinyurl.com/y6a8ym2w

- 13 Children’s Books About Race and Diversity https://tinyurl.com/y6avtoby

- Hear My Story Free audiobooks for children featuring books that primarily have black characters. https://tinyurl.com/yyeuff9tt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Book Babies Survey • Please take a few minutes to fill out our Book Babies survey. Text 919-907-0998 for the link and once you complete the survey let us know for a chance to win a $30 VISA gift card.

- Grab and Go • Need more books during the summer? Stop by Book Harvest and get books to go. Mondays and Wednesdays from 1pm-5pm and Tuesday and Thursday from 9am-12pm. Call 252-497-2665 for assistance.

- Book Drop-offs • We are doing contactless book drop-offs for scheduled virtual home visits. We will be in touch once it is time for your book drop-off.
Learning from Home

During virtual visits and check-in calls we have heard from so many parents who have shared the many creative ways they continue the learning at home for their kids. We loved hearing from you all and had to share with the rest of Book Babies community!

Many families shared that they love the Ready4K text messages they receive each week with tips and activity ideas that match your child’s age. And families shared they enjoy implementing the activities into their routines! Are you signed up for Ready4K texts? If not, let us know and we can help.

No surprise here! Many families shared that they have been reading even more at home with their kids and we love hearing about older siblings reading to their younger siblings! We also heard that some families enjoy participating in virtual story times and enjoy listening to books on YouTube and Audible.

Families also shared they are practicing their colors, letters and numbers! Some families do this through coloring and writing and other families have found fun videos/apps that also incorporate these lessons.

We also heard from many families who are sharing new words with their kids during their daily activities. For example one parent talked about all the new words that can be discovered in the kitchen or while gardening.

One parent shared that they were participating in virtual Zoo visits with their kids. How fun! You can find some online educational material from the NC Zoo here! https://www.nczoo.org/virtual-visit

Many families shared that they are busy at home practicing their math skills. Some activities families shared were flash cards, puzzles and lots of measuring while cooking in the kitchen.

Did you get a chance to check out the Book Harvest series, Parent Chats with Wilma? In this series families shared the amazing projects they have done with their kids at home and we loved seeing so many Book Babies. Check it out here, https://tinyurl.com/yyyy7f7pj.

One parent shared that during reading time she has her kids sit on circles, so they know it is time for reading and it is a helpful way for the kids to stay seated in one spot. She also shared that they love paying attention to books while they eat!