

BookSmiles Fact Sheet



Mission Statement

Research shows that early literacy sets the stage for a child's future success by promoting academic achievement, reduced grade retention, higher graduation rates, and enhanced productivity in adult life. Since its inception, BookSmiles has promoted literacy and the joy of reading by giving more than 1,500,000 books to Philadelphia and New Jersey children who need them most.

By diverting used children's books from going to landfills or pulpsters, we provide millions of books with new life. Starting in infancy, children living in book deserts can build robust libraries of their own, inviting academic success!



What We Do

Did you know that more than 300 million books end up in landfill sites every year?

Through upcycling, we are working hard to lessen that number by collecting, sorting, and distributing new and gently used children's books to children and families living in underserved communities across New Jersey and Philadelphia. We partner with other non-profit organizations and educators, especially those representing Title 1 schools, providing them with children's books for classroom libraries, pop-up book fairs, food bank distribution, and encouraging children to build their own personal home libraries.

By combining these strategies and fostering a societal shift towards a more conscious approach to book consumption and disposal, it is possible to reduce the number of books ending up in landfills significantly. This not only benefits the environment but also contributes to making knowledge and reading materials more accessible to children living in book deserts.

Our Programs



Teacher Take



Book Drives



Non-Profit Partners



Creative Collection Bins



Volunteer Sorting



Upcycling Books

BookSmiles has been featured on:



Scan For Media Page



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**BookSmiles is a 501(c)(3) organization
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