



Holding a Book Drive for BookSmiles

All you need to know!

Thank you for holding a book drive to support BookSmiles!

Book drives are an integral part of our mission. Without the support of individuals, groups, schools and businesses, we could not provide the books to the children we serve! This guide will provide some helpful tips, flyers, social media posts and what to do when your drive ends.

Our Mission: BookSmiles, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, promotes literacy and the joy of reading by giving books to children throughout New Jersey and Greater Philadelphia. We provide students and younger siblings with high-quality new or gently used books, laying the groundwork for academic success. Your book drive will help us make a difference in the lives of the children we serve.

FAQs

Who can hold a book drive? ANYONE! We have had children run their own successful book drives resulting in donations of 1,000 or more books. Organizations also hold successful book drives for BookSmiles. And, of course, area schools continue to harvest thousands of books each month. Consider holding a book drive in your neighborhood!

What do I need to hold a book drive? You will need a collection container and a sign. A plastic storage tote, or several large boxes can do the trick. BookSmiles can offer the use of one of their signature art bins for high traffic collection sites, if one is available. And we can help design a custom flyer or social media post for your drive. **Contact Karen@booksmiles.org and let's create a plan together!**

What types of books does BookSmiles accept? We accept new and gently used books for children, as well as books for adults, antiquarian books are also accepted. Adult books provide us with a revenue stream that helps offset our operating expenses.

How long should I hold the book drive? Most book drives are held for about a month in order to give folks time to learn about the event, and to collect books in their home.

FAQs Continued

How do I promote my book drive? We recommend promoting your book drive at least a week in advance via whatever media works best for you: posters, eblasts, newsletters, social media, school announcements, flyers, etc. Send out reminders throughout the event. For businesses, consider a press release to spread the word.

Monetary donations If someone would like to make a monetary donation, direct them to our website to make secure online donations. For checks, make out and send to BookSmiles, 7300 N. Crescent Blvd. Unit 10, Pennsauken, NJ 08110.

Do we need to sort or count the books? Nope! We will take care of that.

What do I do once the drive is over? After your drive has ended, we ask that you pack up the books in cardboard boxes or bags that are not too heavy and deliver them during open hours or by appointment to the BookSmiles Book Bank located at 7300 N. Crescent Blvd, Unit 10, Pennsauken, NJ 08110. **We can only dispatch our box truck to pick up South Jersey and Philadelphia-area drives that collect over 5,000 books.** Please contact us in advance to arrange this.

Promotion We have created some generic signs that can be printed out and used on your social media pages. Check them out below! If you have specific needs or ideas, our marketing coordinator will work with you and help create materials. Contact karen@booksmiles.org

Generic Book Drive Sign on next page:



Book Drive for BookSmiles

Donate your new or gently used books for
children and adults!

Our book drive runs: _____

Collection boxes are located: _____

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For more information, visit our website: booksmiles.org

Donate
Books
Here



Join us as we support

BookSmiles for a **Book Drive**



Location _____

Dates _____

We accept gently used and new books for both children and adults.

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