

Issue Areas:  
Education,  
Literacy



## Bookworm Bookmarks

There is an alarming literacy crisis in America today and it begins with children. According to Reading is Fundamental (RIF), a leading children's literacy non-profit, twenty-five million children in the U.S. cannot read proficiently. Millions of children from low-income areas don't have the tools they need to learn. You can help put more books into the hands of children who need them! Sort through your gently used books and select books to donate to a local book bank or after-school program. Make fun Bookworm Bookmarks to place inside the book.

Call your book bank to see if they accept children's books and set up a time to deliver. If they do not accept children's books, check with your local library for programs that do accept books.



### What You Need

- Scissors or paper cutter
- Markers or pens
- Googly eyes
- Glue stick
- Hole punch
- Ribbon
- Beads



### How You Do It

- 1** Using the base of a juice glass or small glass candle holder, trace a circle on the paper, approximately 2 inches in diameter.
- 2** Cut the circle out and use as a guide to cut more circles for the bookworms. Each bookworm bookmark will have 5 circles.
- 3** Glue the circles together, starting with the head and adding circles to form the body. Glue together at lower third of circle.
- 4** Glue googly eyes on the head and draw a squiggly mouth.
- 5** Punch a hole with the hole punch at the top center of the bookworm's head.
- 6** Cut a piece of ribbon about 6 inches long. Make a loop at the center of the ribbon and thread it through the hole.
- 7** Pull the ends of the ribbon through the loop until the ribbon is securely fastened through the hole.

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- 8** String beads on both ends of the ribbon and knot both ends to keep the beads in place.
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Before the project

**READ ONE OF THESE BOOKS.**

***Thank You Mr. Falker* by Patricia Polacco**

Patricia Polacco is now one of America's most loved children's book creators, but once upon a time, she was a little girl named Trisha starting school. Trisha could paint and draw beautifully, but when she looked at words on a page, all she could see was jumble. It took a very special teacher to recognize little Trisha's dyslexia: Mr. Falker, who encouraged her to overcome her reading disability. Patricia Polacco will never forget him, and neither will we.

***More Than Anything Else* by Marie Bradby**

From sun-up to sun-down, nine-year-old Booker packs salt at a salt work, but more than anything else, he wants to learn to read. Set in the fall of 1865 in Malden, West Virginia, this story is based on the childhood of Booker T. Washington. Although his stomach rumbles, his real hunger is his intense desire to learn to read.

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