

## **Home Page**

Bright Beginnings: Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go” – Dr. Seuss

Bringing books to as many books as possible in the hopes that they'll learn to love to read.

Since 2011, Bright Beginnings Books has distributed 13,000+ free books to children across all 50 states and 12 countries.

**CTA Buttons:** [Donate Now] [Request Books] [Our Story]

### **Impact Stats (visual callout boxes)**

- **13,000+ Books** distributed since 2011
- **All 50 States** + 12 countries reached
- **15 Years** of bringing stories to children
- **501(c)(3)** nonprofit organization

### **How It Works (3-column section)**

- 1. We collect** through grassroots donations and strategic purchasing to build diverse libraries for all ages and interests.
- 2. We distribute** books that reach children through community events, school programs, Little Free Libraries, and organizational partnerships.
- 3. We encourage** every child to find books that spark imagination, build literacy, and open doors to new worlds.

From park giveaways in Arkansas to partnerships in Uganda, Bright Beginnings Books creates access to reading for children who need it most.

### **About:**

**About Addie:** Addie Elizabeth Jones is the founder of Bright Beginnings Books. She is a senior at the University of Arkansas and a Sturgis Fellow in the Fulbright Honors College, majoring in Journalism and Political Science. When not reading, she enjoys running, playing piano, working in progressive communications.

Addie Elizabeth Jones has been an avid reader for as long as she can remember, and books have always been an important part of her life. Because of this, she started a program called Bright Beginnings Books, where she visits schools, attends community events, and gives away books to children all over the state and beyond. She has given away over 13,000 brand new books to all 50 states and 12 countries. Her goal is to spread the love of reading all over the state and around the world by providing access and creating enthusiasm for books.

**Donations:** Money donated is used to purchase books or buy supplies for reading activities. Bright Beginnings Books is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, making your donations tax-deductible.

**Events:** We host events such as themed walk-through fairs, Halloween and Christmas celebrations, Reading in the Park, pop-up book distributions, and character appearances at Little Free Library refills. Over the years, we've partnered with organizations across Arkansas and beyond to bring books to children at schools, community festivals, and special events.

**Our Space:** We have a beautifully decorated space dedicated completely to storing books and hosting book-related activities for children, located in Harrison, Arkansas. **In 2026, we are relocating to a new headquarters space to expand our capacity to serve even more children.**

**Partnerships:** Bright Beginnings Books works with Arkansas State Police (providing books for children in crisis), Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA), the Boone County Imagination Library Board, schools across Arkansas, and our newest international partner – OSOF Uganda.

**Official Status:** Officially became a 501(c)(3) non-profit in March 2021.

### **Timeline:**

#### **2011-2015:**

- Organization founded by Addie Jones (age 7)
- Mobile library distributions from family car
- Grassroots fundraising through garage sales and community events
- Early partnerships with local schools and parks

#### **2016-2017:**

- **50 States Project completed** - books distributed in all 50 states

- Arkansas State Police partnership established - books for children in crisis
- Partnership with Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA)
- First international distributions launched
- Books donated to Louisiana schools after flooding disaster

## **2018-2019:**

- Two Little Free Libraries established at local elementary schools
- Books sent to Argentina, Suriname, Washington, D.C.
- Expanded ELL (English Language Learner) distributions to high-need districts
- Joined Boone County Imagination Library Board
- Themed engagement programs: Shark Week, Dr. Seuss celebrations, Dinosaur & Donut Book Fair
- Partnership with Ruby Kate Chitsey's Three Wishes for Ruby's Residents

## **2020-2021:**

- Achieved 501(c)(3) nonprofit status (March 2021)
- Adapted programming during COVID: virtual readings, outdoor events, drive-by distributions
- Grand opening of dedicated storage and activity space
- Major community fundraising event: Winter Wonderland walk-through experience

## **2022-2024:**

- Launched website
- Partnership with Tri Delta sorority for alumni family events
- Established partnership with OSOF Uganda - tennis/education program in Africa
- Continued signature Halloween and Christmas events

## **2025-Present:**

- First book shipment activated in Uganda partnership
- Ongoing pop-up events and Little Free Library maintenance
- Planning headquarters relocation (January 2026)

### **Donate:**

Every book we give away is made possible by donors like you. Since 2011, Bright Beginnings Books has operated on the belief that every child deserves access to books – and your generosity makes that belief a reality.

### **Your Impact:**

- **\$25** = One box of books
- **\$50** = Enough books for a small classroom stock
- **\$100** = Stocking a classroom library
- **\$250** = Enough for a full community event or Little Free Library
- **Custom amount** = Every dollar brings stories and learning to children

### **Request Books:**

Bright Beginnings Books is happy to give away books to events in the community, throughout the state, and beyond! If you would like to request books for your event, please complete the form! We will do our best to honor your request. You will be notified if your request is approved, as we have a set amount of books we can donate each month.

### **Contact:**

Same as website