



Evansville Vanderburgh
Public Library

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February 10, 2025

For Immediate Release

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Baby Explorer Bundles Now Available for Community's Newest Readers

Evansville, Indiana – Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library has launched Baby Explorer Bundles, an early literacy initiative that includes materials and resources to encourage caregivers to read, bond, and play with their little ones.

“From their earliest days, children benefit from exposure to books, stories, songs, and the joy of reading together,” said Erika Qualls Barnett, Director of Programming and Outreach at EVPL. “By the age of 2, children who are regularly read to display greater language comprehension, larger vocabularies, and higher cognitive skills than their peers.”

The Baby Explorer Bundles were developed by EVPL’s School Readiness Committee, which includes librarians with specific training in early literacy. The Bundles include new materials, such as a stand-up flipbook of songs, rhymes, and other interactive activities. Also included are EVPL’s 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten incentive program, and Storytime To Go materials and guidebooks, which encourage multisensory storytimes at home.

“Baby Explorer Bundles are available to families who have welcomed a baby in the past year,” said Qualls Barnett. “However, children aged 1 and older are eligible for both 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and Storytime To Go. We encourage families to participate in these and other EVPL programs to help build early learning and reading skills, while also bonding and having fun together.”

Baby Explorer Bundles are available at all eight EVPL locations, and more information is available at evpl.org/babyexplorer. Efforts are also underway to provide Baby Explorer Bundles to all families with babies who live within the Evansville Promise Neighborhood, as this initiative has been partially funded by the EPN grant.

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The Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library has served our community for more than a century. With eight locations throughout Vanderburgh County, immediate access to hundreds of thousands of digital resources, and a dedicated team of library professionals, EVPL strives to create opportunities for you to discover, explore, and connect with your library. For more information, visit evpl.org.

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