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*Promoting the Joy of Reading by sharing books  
with young children and their families.*

*Raising Readers Committee Members: Betsy Cornell, Chair; MJ Malsam, Ann Bartell, Andree Deligdisch, Judi Jonas, Carol Paul, Jill Van Son, Lisa Carlson, Chris Barge, Stormi Beutler*

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**Books for Babies** is a partnership with Benefis, giving a free book to parents of all newborns. MJ Malsam, the intake nurse for Labor and Delivery at Benefis invites parents to choose a book for their new little one. She also educates and encourages families to read to their children at an early age.

Average number of books delivered monthly: 140

**Community Bookshelves Project** supplies free children's books in high-traffic, high-priority family outreach locations. Our committee members volunteer to check and restock their bookshelves monthly. Books are supplied through a partnership with Great Falls Public Schools Literacy teachers who hold an annual Valentines' Day book drive and many community members who contribute gently used books to this project.

Average number of books delivered monthly: 450

**Summer Read 6!** delivers free books to thousands of children each summer. Currently funded by an anonymous donor in Great Falls, past grantors have been United Way and the GFPS Foundation. In addition, we circulate many gently-used books into our Summer Read 6! book bins. This project is staffed by GFPS teachers over 10 nights during the summer.

Average number of books delivered in summer 3500.

**Valentines' Day Book Drive:** Currently only in elementary schools. Would your organization like to participate?

**Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy:** We are partnering with this amazing foundation to bring books to all Great Falls children birth to age 5. For more information, see [gfecc.org](http://gfecc.org).