

For Immediate Release

Ferst Readers

P.O. Box 1327

Madison, GA. 1327



Over 2,000 Books to Children Currently Serving 13% of Ages 0-5!

Join us to Give the Gift of Reading - 180 for \$18.00!



Since 2019, children, birth to five years old, in Brantley County have been receiving free age-appropriate books and literacy resources monthly from the Ferst Readers program. This has been made possible through the efforts of the local volunteer Community Action Team, Brantley County Family Connection, local businesses, and individual donors. Some of our donors:

- Okefenokee Rural ELC
- Marshland Credit Union
- Brantley County Exchange
- Nahunta United Methodist Church
- Brantley County Friends of the Library

Ferst Readers has mailed **over 2,000 books** to Brantley County children! Currently, 140 children receive books monthly, serving approximately 13% of children ages birth-5 in Brantley County.

Why is this program needed in Brantley County? Over 82% of Brantley County students are on Free/Reduced Lunch. Research shows 61% of children who live in low-income homes do not have access to books in their homes. When parents are struggling to keep their jobs, pay rent or bills, and struggling to stay afloat, buying books is not at the top of their priority list. Ferst Readers of Brantley County is allowing these families the opportunity to bond and enjoy the love of reading through a new book each month. Having access to books in the home is one of the top predictors of school success.

What can the citizens of Brantley County do?

For \$18.00, 180 people can Give the Gift of Reading to help us continue to mail books to the 140 Brantley children currently receiving books and increase the number of children to receive books! We are asking local businesses and residents of Brantley County, who want to see the future citizens of Brantley County become life-long readers and be more successful in school, join our vision of creating better learners, brighter futures, and stronger communities by giving every child under five access to quality books in their homes.

Your tax-deductible donation stays in Brantley County and supports only Brantley County children!



If you are not familiar with the program, you can visit: www.ferstreaders.org to learn more.

To donate to Ferst Readers of Brantley County, you can mail a check to Ferst Readers P.O. Box 1327 Madison, GA. 1327 (please put BRANTLEY CO on the MEMO line) or go online to www.ferstreaders.org and select Brantley from the drop-down menu.

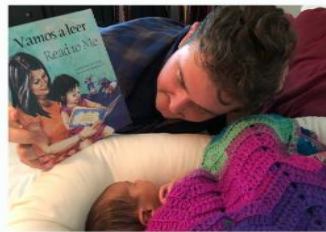
For questions or volunteering, please contact Dawn Deen, Executive Assistant Brantley County Family Connection, at 912-462-5979/bcfcdawndeen@gmail.com or Melissa Silva, Ferst Readers Regional Program Coordinator, at 912-713-5282/melissa@ferstreader.org.

Pictured are Brantley County children reading their new books.

180 people needed to
donate \$18 to help us
continue to mail books
to children in
Brantley County!



180 for \$18



Donate online at
www.ferstreaders.org
(select Brantley County in the drop-down menu)
or mail a check to
Ferst Readers PO Box 1327
Madison, GA 30650
(put Brantley in the Memo Line)