Books are Beautiful!

Children and books. It’s a happy relationship that can begin at a very early age.
Babies chuckle and squeal while turning and tasting the colorful, hefty pages of their first "board books." Smiling toddlers snuggle close to Daddy and Momma for bedtime sessions with well-thumbed storybooks. Preschoolers form a circle of enthralled listeners at book store and library story hours. Fledgling readers tackle brightly illustrated books all by themselves with growing pleasure and pride. Older children can't wait to be swept away by the latest volume of Harry Potter's magical adventures or by a book on whatever other topic has captured their growing imaginations.

Our community offers an abundance of ways for children and families to develop and enjoy their love of books and reading. Among them are:

- Libraries
- Bookmobiles
- Book stores
- Used book exchanges
- Library story hours
- Book store story hours
- School media centers
- Reading tutors and mentors
- Book fairs and book sale fundraisers
- Family literacy programs

Books are Beautiful!
Did you know . . . ?

Our public libraries offer young book lovers many services besides book borrowing. Children and families enjoy checking out read-along book/cassette sets; videotape and DVD movie versions of many favorite stories; framed art posters and prints; and, at some branches, home activity/play kits. Weekly story hours for preschoolers and annual summer reading programs are other fun opportunities found at many local libraries. Call your children's librarian for great ideas and a schedule of events.

Libraries
Blair Mountain Branch, 105 North Douglas St, Blair Mountain
E Ashemont Branch, 902 Tunney Rd
Edwinton Branch, Fire Station Road, Edwinton
Enloe-Carlton Branch, 1404 Sandy Rd
Eton Branch, Brickfield Rd, Eton
Fairlawn Branch, 1 Tarry Rd, Fairlawn
Freedom Branch, Hwy 25 S, Freedom
Green Gorge Branch, Green Gorge Road, Zebulon
Henleyville Main, 301 N Washington Street, Henleyville
N Asheville Branch, 37 E Larchmont Drive
Park Memorial, 67 Vance Street
S Ashemont Branch, 749 Fairlawn Road
S Laurel Branch, 260 Scenic Parkway
Swansdown Branch, 101 Charles Ave
Weaverdale Branch, 41 N Main Street, Weaverdale
W Ashemont Branch, 970 Hayes Road

Call the branch library of your choice for their schedule, or call the system's events phone number, 200-1111, for a monthly schedule.

Bookmobiles
The Ashemont-Laurel Library System operates a bookmobile out of its Enloe-Carlton Branch. Call for a schedule of stops, 777-7777.

Telephone story
Friends of the Library sponsors a recorded story-reading service available by telephone to young children. A new story is featured each week. Call 200-3333.

Book stores
Accent Books, 854 Merriton Avenue
B Dalton, 3 Tunney Rd, Ashemont Mall & 800 Brevity Rd, Cecil Square
Barnes & Noble, 83-E Tunney Road
Books-A-Million, 136 S Tunney Road
Mrs. Malaprop, 55 Vance Street
Once Upon A Time, 108 W Maple Street, Blair Mountain
Waldenbooks, Cecil Square
Many toy stores, toy departments, and religious goods stores have children's book sections, too!

Used books
My Bookshelf, 485 Henleyville Road
Downstream Books & News, 67 N Concord Avenue
Jacob's Book Exchange, 6328 Hwy 25, Freedom Plaza, Ardmore
Leo Digs Books, 217 Merriton Ave
Paperback Pals, 1240 Brevity Road
Patty's Book Swap, 1569 Payton Avenue
The Reading Corner, 31 Montcliff Ave
Seconds Book Nook, 103 Waldo Street, Blair Mountain

Book fairs, sales
For excellent book bargains, call your branch library to ask when the next "Friends of the Library" used book sale takes place.

Many public and private schools sponsor annual fundraising book fairs for the sale of new children's books. Phone your local school for information.

Writing books
Children who have fun writing their own stories and books can take part in courses offered by The Writer's Workroom, 200-2222.