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Imagine summer without a book to read.
For many children, it's not so hard to picture. **It's a reality.**

Summer slide. It's not as fun as it sounds.

Children who don't read during summer can drop two to four months behind their classmates in reading achievement. By sixth grade, these children lag two years behind their peers – a nearly insurmountable gap.

Summer slide affects children from low-income families at significantly disproportionate rates, often due to simple lack of access to books outside of school.

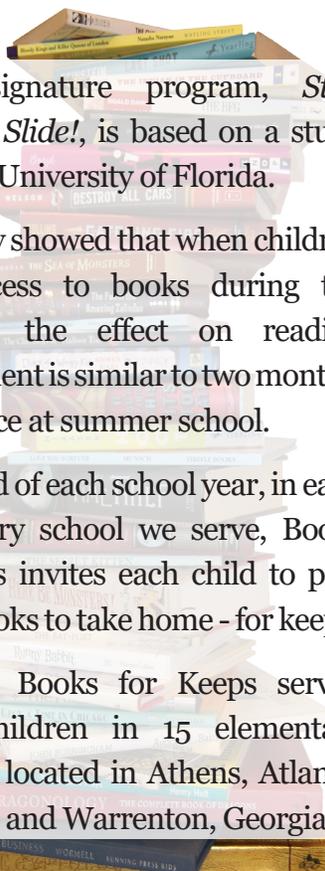
since 2009:

275,000 books to grades K-5 to *Stop Summer Slide!*

19,000 additional books for pre-K, middle, and high school students

41,000 books to teachers and other literacy partners

a total of 335,000 books



BFK's signature program, *Stop Summer Slide!*, is based on a study from the University of Florida.

The study showed that when children have access to books during the summer, the effect on reading achievement is similar to two months' attendance at summer school.

At the end of each school year, in each elementary school we serve, Books for Keeps invites each child to pick out 12 books to take home - for keeps!

In 2017, Books for Keeps served 6,200 children in 15 elementary schools - located in Athens, Atlanta, Elberton, and Warrenton, Georgia.

What can you do?

Donate...

\$30 sponsors one child

\$600 sponsors an entire classroom

You can also donate your gently used books – even books that don't go to the kids will generate money at Books for Keeps' annual sale.

Host...

A book drive, percentage night, or other fundraiser for Books for Keeps. Each book makes a difference in the life of a child, and every dollar helps us reach more kids.

Volunteer...

Sorting Books, helping at annual distributions, and staffing book sales – we've got a job for you!

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