

# Bookmark Template







**Thank you** for taking the Students Rebuild Literacy Challenge! To participate, make and mail in a bookmark. For each bookmark you send in, the Bezos Family Foundation will donate \$1—up to \$300,000—to Save the Children's Literacy Boost program in Latin America, Africa and Asia. The more bookmarks you send, the more children you'll help!

## How to Make a Bookmark

First, sign up for the Challenge so your bookmarks will count!

Next, follow these easy instructions to create a bookmark for the Students Rebuild Literacy Challenge. You can also watch our short How to Make a Bookmark video.

Any kind of paper—magazines, newspapers, origami paper, maps and even plain paper that you decorate with paint, markers or crayons can be recycled into colorful, sturdy bookmarks—but you can make a bookmark out of anything! We just ask that you send us intentional, personalized bookmarks; random or blank scraps of paper will not be counted.

The simple instructions below are for making standard paper bookmarks, but please feel welcome to create different shapes and use alternative materials—see our suggestions below under "Get Creative." If you decide to have a bookmark-making party, we encourage you to make bookmarks yourself first. That way, you'll be comfortable with the process and can better help your event participants!

#### Materials:

- Paper (any kind of paper will do!)
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Pencil or pen
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc.

## Optional:

- Glitter, sequins, etc.
- Ribbon, string (for tassel)
- Laminating material / Mod Podge

#### Directions:

- 1. Select the kind of paper you would like to use, then measure and cut out a long, narrow rectangle (between 4-6 inches long and 1-2 inches wide is ideal). Alternatively, you may print and cut our handy bookmark template. As you create, please remember you're making bookmarks for students around the world, so very small or over-sized bookmarks may not be useful.
- 2. Optional: Do you want to embellish your bookmark with a tassel made of ribbon, string or other soft material? If so, now is the best time to create a space to attach your tassel by making a small hole with a hole punch or scissors (see template for example) at the top of your rectangle. Although you make the hole at this point, don't actually add the tassel or cow hitch until the very end—after you're done decorating your bookmark. This will protect both your tassel and the design.
- 3. Decorate your bookmark! Draw pictures, write words—anything you like! You can make any design you choose, but here are some suggestions to get you started:
  - Design the bookmark to look like the cover of your favorite book!
  - Take a moment to consider the young student who may be receiving your bookmark and what he or she might like to see. Research what life, art and design look like in the countries the Challenge will benefit and design something representative of that culture.
  - Write your favorite quote, poem or book passage on your bookmark.
  - What are you interested in? Draw something personal to share with your peer, like your pet, a self-portrait or your favorite place.
  - Make something beautiful—go abstract, impressionistic or geometric.
- 4. **Optional finishing touches:** Attach your tassel, add glitter or other embellishments or laminate / clear seal your bookmark if desired. *If you use sealant, please allow the bookmark to dry before putting it with other bookmarks and / or mailing it. We sometimes receive items that are glued together and unfortunately can't use them!*

## Get Creative!

Did you know that bookmarks have been used since the medieval era to hold readers' places in the stories they love? With such a long history, the basic bookmark has evolved into a functional piece of art many have put their own personal, creative spins on. Below are a few examples of the imaginative and original types of bookmarks you can use for inspiration...

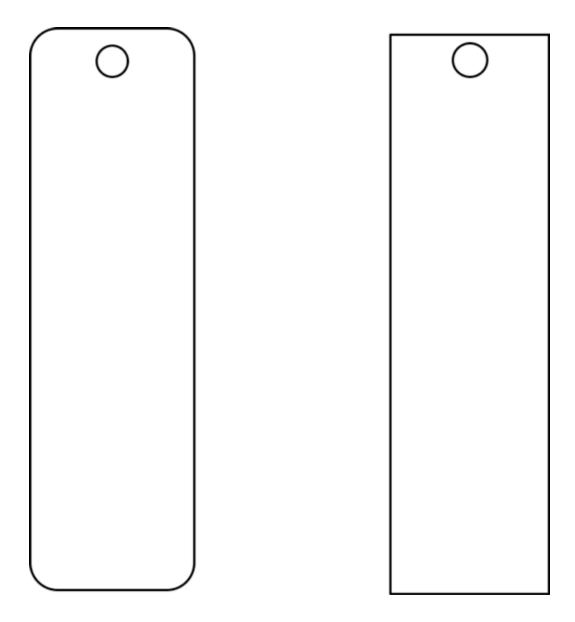
Embroidered bookmarks
Pickle-shaped bookmarks
Bookmarks made from photographs
Leather bookmarks
Dried banana leaf bookmarks

Fabric / sewn bookmarks
Balsa wood bookmarks
Beaded bookmarks
Delicate paper-cut bookmarks
Collaged bookmarks



## **Bookmark Templates**

Print and cut templates along black lines and use as-is, or place over decorative paper and outline. Making bookmarks out of cardstock or applying templates to lighter cardboard will make them sturdier and extend their use. To add an optional tassel or ribbon to your bookmark, use a hole punch or scissors to cut out the upper circle. You may adjust the lengths and widths of the templates to your preferences, but remember, between 4-6 inches long and 1-2 inches wide is ideal!



## Share Your Work & Mail Your Bookmarks!

We'd love to see the bookmarks you make and your Students Rebuild Literacy Challenge teams! It would be great to see a photo of your bookmark next to your favorite book. We'd also like to hear why you took the Literacy Challenge and how you feel about helping others. Before you mail in your bookmarks, take a moment to share your photos, videos, thoughts and reflections on our social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest, Tumblr and Google+ or email them to us. Use the hashtag #SRLiteracy.

#### Postal Mail

Please write the following information on the outside of the package:

- 1. The name of your Literacy Challenge Team (the name you chose when you registered)
- 2. How many people were on your team
- 3. A count of how many bookmarks you made

Make sure your bookmarks are completely dry if you used any sealant. We sometimes receive items that are glued together and unfortunately can't use them! If you added tassels, package the bookmarks securely so they aren't crushed and mail the box to:

Students Rebuild 918 S. Horton St. #5047 Seattle, WA 98134

## Email (non-U.S. only)

Do you live outside of the United States? If the cost of international shipping is too costly, please feel free to submit "digital" bookmarks! Follow these steps:

- 1. Register for the Students Rebuild Literacy Challenge so your bookmarks will count!
- 2. Make your bookmarks.
- 3. Take photos of your bookmarks.
- 4. Send an email to info@studentsrebuild.org that includes the name of your team, how many people were on your team, the number of bookmarks you made and please attach at least one bookmark photo.

5. Share your bookmarks on our social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest, Tumblr and Google+ and use the hashtag #SRLiteracy. Note: For international teams, your bookmarks won't count towards the Challenge if you only share them on social media—please follow steps 1-4. Thanks!

We'll match your digital bookmarks with donations to Save the Children's Literacy Boost program in Latin America, Africa and Asia! Thanks for taking the Students Rebuild Literacy Challenge!

