

# Bookstart Sweden

SWEDISH  
**ARTS**COUNCIL

# Bookstart around the world!

**Bookgifting programs are effective and make a difference!**

This is stated in the knowledge overview Bookstart in the world, which sheds light on international research, knowledge and methods for Bookstart and similar bookgifting programs.

Read or order *Bokstart around the world* at:

<https://www.bokstart.se/ombokstart/bokstart-i-andra-lander/bookstart-around-the-world/>

If you need help: [info@bokstart.se](mailto:info@bokstart.se)





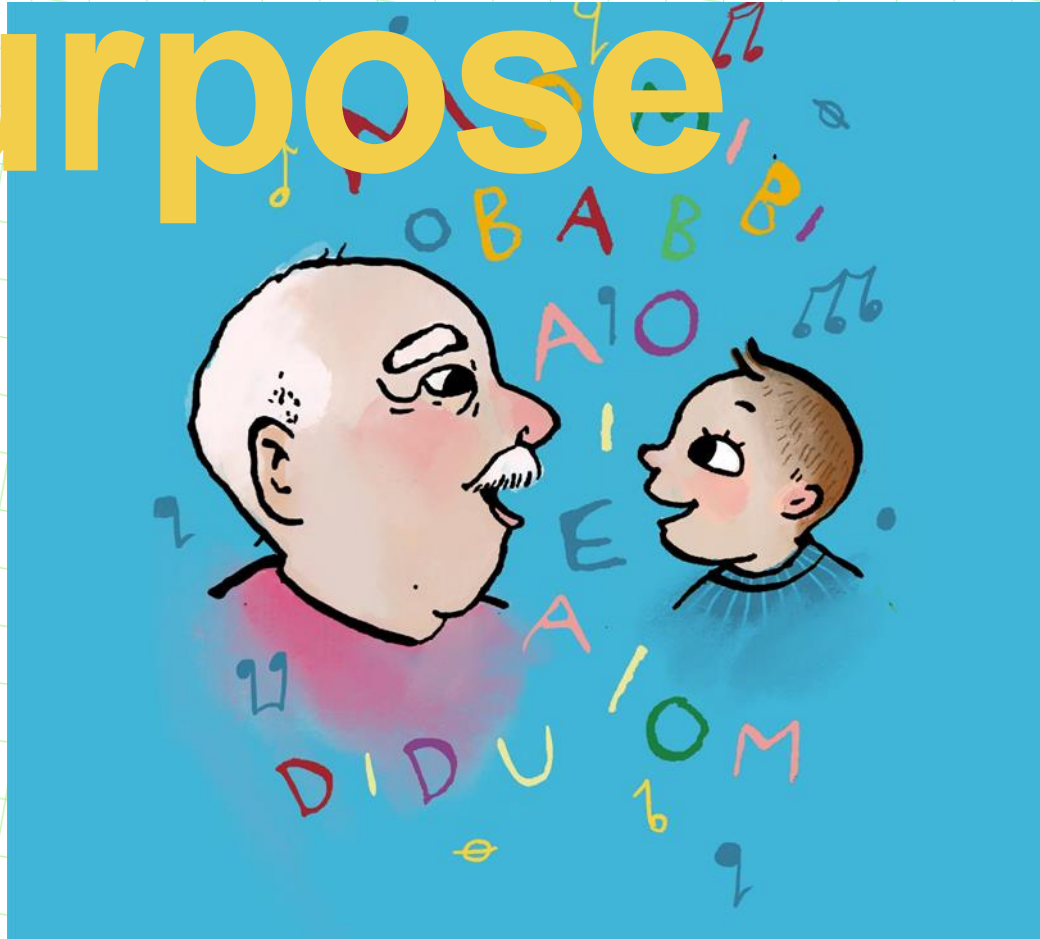
This knowledge overview highlights that bookgifting programs are effective, efficient and have a positive effect on children's language development:

- Bookgifting programs alter caregivers' and children's attitudes towards reading
- The more written language stimulus, the better the conditions for language development
- Reading aloud at home at an early age (2-3 years) affects school results (8-9 years), as children's language development and other cognitive development go further
- Bookgifting programs can especially support groups with poorer socio-economic conditions

illustration: Matilda Ruta



# Purpose



- In this report, we collect relevant research and successful methods, so that everyone who works to promote reading for the little ones can be inspired and able to relate their work to experiences from similar initiatives.
- This report has been provided by Governo on assignment from the Swedish Arts Council. Governo is a management consultant company focused on the public sector.

illustration: Matilda Ruta

# Question



What is currently understood about bookgifting programmes aimed at families with young children?

This question is divided according to certain areas that are considered to be of particular relevance to the future development of Bookstart:

- Models for bookgifting programmes (methods and target groups)
- Evaluation and effects
- Collaboration
- Prerequisites for national bookgifting programmes
- Metaanalysis of existing research

# In focus



This overview was designed to:

1.review existing studies  
2.highlight a number of examples of specific programs in different countries, to display a variation of methods:

- Bookstart (United Kingdom)
- Lesestart 12-3 (Germany)
- Boekstart (The Netherlands)
- Reach out and Read (USA)
- Bookstart (Japan)





“Book giveaway programs were particularly effective when they included multiple personal contacts with caregivers, information sessions, and demonstration of book reading.”

(Bondt, Willeberg & Bus, 2020 s. 366.)

“The findings corroborate the assumption that book giveaways promote family book reading routines, which consequently results in children scoring higher on measures of children’s literacy-related behaviour and skills. The findings thus support the theory that the early initiation of book reading promoted by book giveaway programs generates a “snowball effect”.

(Bondt, Willeberg & Bus, 2020: 366)





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A photograph of a person sitting on a couch with a dog, overlaid with a halftone pattern. The person is wearing a dark jacket and is holding a small object in their hands. The dog is sitting next to them. The background is a solid dark color.

# Thanks!

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