

Impact Report

Happy Valley Elementary PTA hosted a **Free Book Fair** on February 28, 2025, for the school's 454 students. Over 35% of the school's families qualify for free or reduced lunch and we have students who are unhoused, in the foster care system, and living with food insecurity. This event was free to students and held during school hours, helping to increase access to books in the home. We collected donations of new and gently used children's books from community members and local organizations. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our Bellingham community. This year, we collected **4,273 books**, over 1,000 more than we collected the previous year.



What we collected

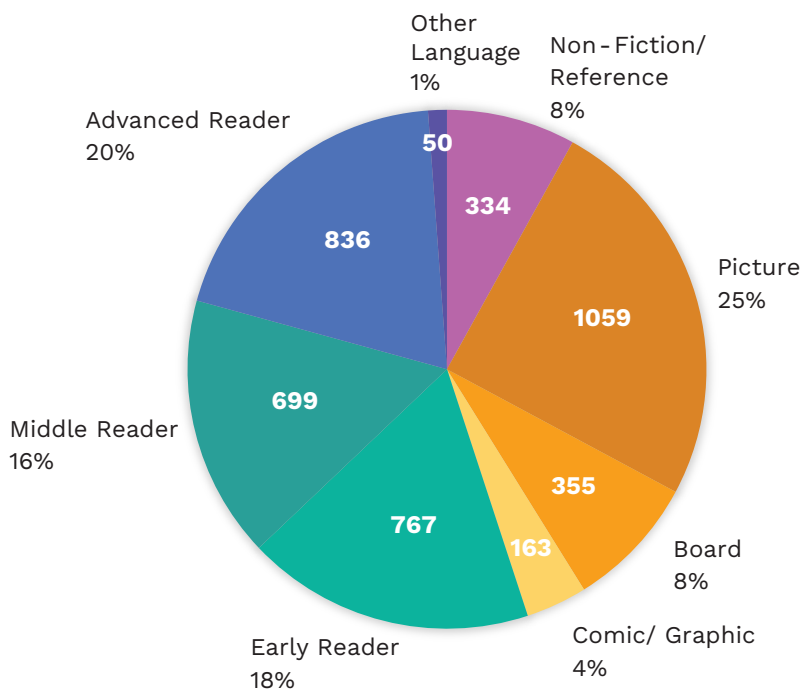


Figure 1. Books collected by type. Total: 4,273 books.

Our community rocks!

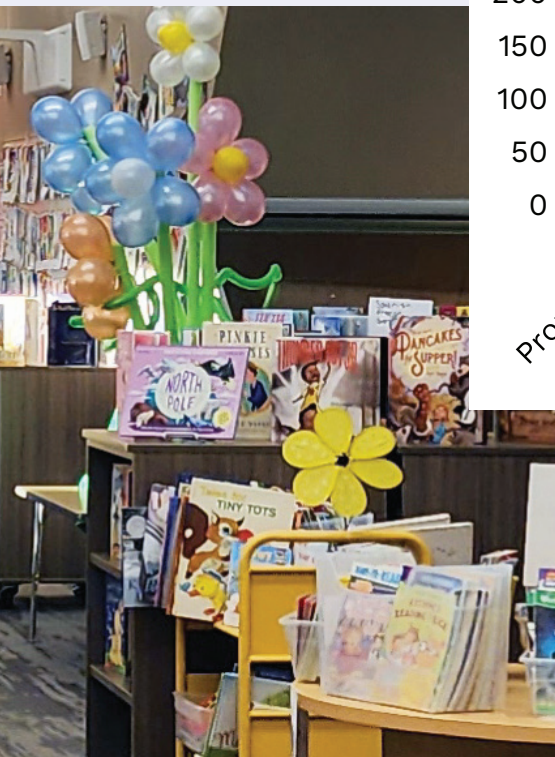
Thanks to the generosity of our community donors and sponsors, the Free Book Fair offered books that students were excited about. The quality and quantity of books from our community amazed our school, and we are incredibly grateful.

Thank you to our donors & sponsors

Anvil Corporation	John L. Scott Real Estate
Flip Kids & Maternity Consignment Store	Loving Space School
Friends of the Bellingham Public Library	Mount Bakery Cafe
Hillcrest Church	U-Haul
	Village Books

Whatcom Family YMCA
WWU Child Development Center
HV Family and Friends





Impact at a glance

This year, we held the Free Book Fair during school and classes took turns visiting the event and selecting books. Many kids expressed their excitement, and there were several quotes that warmed our heart. Here are just a few of them:

"This is the best day!" - *Student getting five books at the event*

"I got three books, but it feels like five!" - *Third grader carrying giant books*

"This looks like me!" - *Child of color points to a book at the event*

"This was the most amazing event I've experienced in my 20+ years of teaching. Watching my students pick just the right books was magical."

—Gina Ney, Kindergarten teacher



2,974
books went home
with students

70% of donated books

The remaining books will find homes in our school library, classrooms, and with any students/teachers who were unable to attend the event.

Who the books served by grade

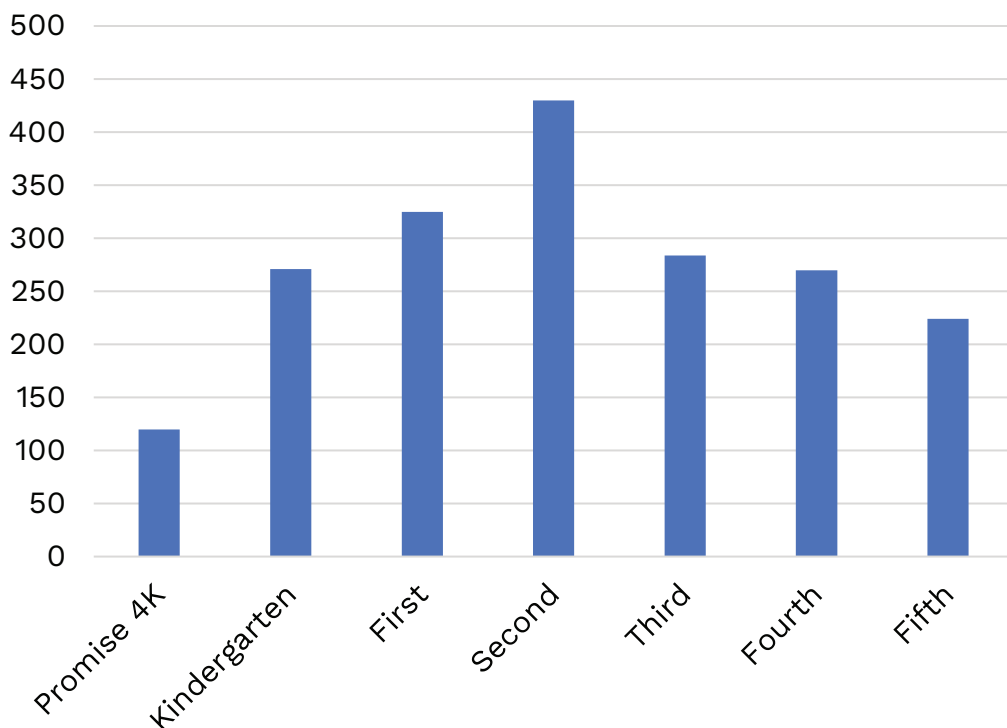


Figure 2. Number of books taken by students per grade.

Thank you again for your participation in the Happy Valley Elementary PTA's Free Book Fair 2025. Without your support, the success of this event would not have been possible.

Questions? Contact bookfair@happyvalleypta.com

