

## Library Books

The Senator from North and Northeast Portland pointed out that children have been successfully taught reading if they are checking books out of the library.

Children should be voluntarily curled up with a book at a young age.

My wife died suddenly 35 years ago when my children were ages 1 ½ to 12. We still have a chalkboard with a Bible verse on it in her handwriting from the day before.

It is Proverbs 3:5. “Trust in the Lord with all thy heart and lean not unto thine own understanding.” In all thy ways acknowledge him and he *shall* direct thy paths.

Written in the corner of the chalkboard is another notation in the handwriting of one of my children. It says: “84 books”.

My wife took the children to the library every few weeks. We would count the books and write the number down, so they would all be returned. More than 80 books was typical.

I introduced my daughter Bethany and her family to you a few weeks ago. I mentioned that her 8-year-old had read more than 900 books.

Bethany and another homeschool family are responsible for most of the books checked out of their rural library. Public school students are not checking out very many.

I again recommend that we let homeschool mothers teach reading in the public schools – without licenses or other nonsense. It would work.