



# *Celebrating Georgia's Pre-K Program: A Million Dreams ... and Counting*

*Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning is celebrating a significant milestone this year. During the fall of 2009, the **one millionth** child will pass through the doors of a Georgia's Pre-K Program!*

**Want to participate?  
Here's what you can do:**

- Read a book to a child.  
Then log the book in on our website ([www.dec.state.ga.us](http://www.dec.state.ga.us)). Our goal is to read one million books.
- Collect pennies. We are collecting one million pennies to donate to a charity.
- Check our website often for an upcoming event near you.

We plan to mark this occasion with exciting events throughout the state all year long. Georgia First Lady Mary Perdue will kick off the **Millionth Child Campaign** in July 2009. She and Governor Sonny Perdue have chosen the book *How Much Is a Million?* by David M. Schwartz in honor of the celebration. Every Pre-K child will receive a copy of the book in October.

The Million Book Campaign began in April 2009. We want everyone in Georgia to read to children in child care programs, family day care homes, at home, in schools, in church, in public libraries, at fairs, or anywhere there is an opportunity to share the love of reading. We ask that each reader visit our website ([www.dec.state.ga.us](http://www.dec.state.ga.us)) to log in the number of books read that day or week. The counter is live and updated continuously on our website. Prizes will be awarded throughout the campaign.

In partnership with SunTrust Bank, Bright from the Start is challenging every Georgian to help teach children math skills by participating in collecting one million pennies! At the end of the campaign, a check for the total amount collected will be presented to Governor and Mrs. Perdue to be given to a charity of their choice. Be sure to visit the Bright from the Start website often for a list of activities in your area.

*About Georgia's Pre-K Program: Georgia's Pre-K Program is a state funded educational program for Georgia's four year olds to prepare children for school success. The program will serve 82,000 children in the 2009-10 school year. This nationally recognized program emphasizes high quality learning experiences for all children.*

*For more information about the Millionth Child Campaign, please contact  
Bright from the Start's Public Relations Unit at 404-656-5957.*

