



March 2012 E-newsletter



We're making waves

Early learning is a hot issue and not just here at home. Based on the e-mails and Facebook posts we're getting, our work to promote early learning – through projects such as *Babies on Track*, Imagination Library, and activity guides – is attracting positive attention from all over the world. [Read on...](#)



Obesity top problem for children

Alaskans rank obesity as the top health issue for children. There's good reason for that concern, according to information compiled by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. And it's not necessarily just "baby fat" that will disappear with age. One-third of obese pre-schoolers become overweight adults. [Learn more...](#)



Premieres score rave reviews

The final numbers aren't in yet, but the *Babies on Track* premieres that swept Alaska Feb. 25 to March 4 were a huge success. More than 4,000 sets of *Babies on Track* – the DVD and companion baby board books – were distributed at 160+ premieres in more than 80 Alaska communities. [Here's what happened...](#)

Imagination Library hits new high

17,141 Alaska children are now enrolled in one of 25 [local Imagination Libraries in Alaska](#).

Congratulations to the newest Imagination Libraries:

Yukon Flats (Venetie)
Anchor Point
Copper River
Togiak

A mere three years ago, Alaska had only three local Imagination Libraries with 3,673 children enrolled. As that old ad used to say, we've come a long way, baby!





“5 Factors” campaign kicks off

Strong and resilient families have five traits in common. Efforts to help families build these five factors into their lives and communities are going on all over Alaska. A 10-week statewide campaign to highlight these efforts and build stronger families launches April 22, just in time for Week of the Young Child. [Learn more...](#)

Significant social changes occur partly because of shifts in how people think. When Best Beginnings becomes part of your world through Facebook, you are contributing to that change in thinking.

[Like us now](#)

and become a valuable ally in the movement to invest more in Alaska’s young children.

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Best Beginnings is a public-private partnership that mobilizes people and resources to ensure all Alaska children begin school ready to succeed.

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