

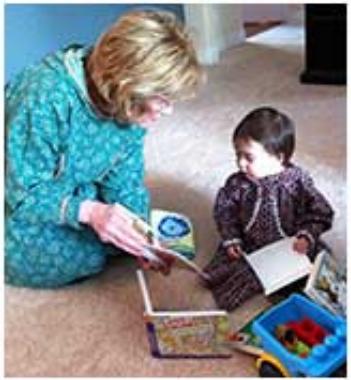


# BEST BEGINNINGS

Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

E-Newsletter

## July 2013 E-newsletter



### Our role in Imagination Library: Something quite different

More than 20,000 Alaska children are enrolled in Imagination Library. Yet Best Beginnings didn't enroll a single one of them. Surprised? You're probably not alone. What we do is support the volunteers who make it work in their communities. We've helped build a team, and all their sharing statewide is very special.

[Here's why.](#)



### StoryTRACKS Launch

StoryTRACKS is up and running. Dozens of children and their families have already walked, skipped, and danced their way through *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*. Catch the [APRN story](#) and [iMovie](#) of the fun. To check StoryTRACKS out or see where it's appearing next, [click here](#).

### Credit Union 1 supports Best Beginnings

Throughout August, all Credit Union 1 branches will have counter signs inviting patrons to donate to Best Beginnings.

This marks the third year that Credit Union 1 has conducted this statewide campaign. It's a wonderful way for Credit Union 1 members to support early learning.

[Find out how you can take part](#)

### Join our team!

Best Beginnings is recruiting a Partnerships Manager with stellar people skills, an affinity for group dynamics, and a passionate commitment to early learning. Strong organizational, facilitation, and coordination skills

### Is your **family** ready for kindergarten?

We've focused a lot on a child's abilities and skills for kindergarten. What about the family? A kindergarten-ready family has routines to insure good attendance. They have set ground rules explaining the differences between acceptable home behavior and acceptable public behavior. Is your family kindergarten-



ready? [Read more.](#)

required.

[Read job description](#)

## Help kids succeed

Too few of the young children entering kindergarten this fall have all the skills they'll need to succeed in school.

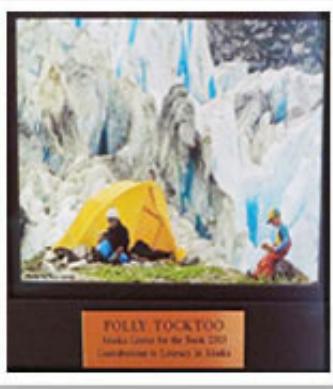


### We have wonderful friends

Several businesses and organizations recently donated to our work, helping Alaska's children become Ready for School. We hope you'll thank them, too: Northrim Bank, Alaska State Literacy Association, and, for the creation of StoryTRACKS: Anchorage Park Foundation, Blaines Art, Eagle Enterprises, REI, Stake Shop, and Barnes & Noble. [Details here.](#)

When they start behind, it's very difficult to catch up. Help Best Beginnings ensure that all Alaska children start school ready to learn.

[Donate here](#)



### Tocktoo wins literacy award

Polly Tocktoo, a champion of early literacy and [Imagination Library in Brevig Mission](#), has received a [2013 Contributions to Literacy in Alaska \(CLIA\) Award](#). Tocktoo initiated Imagination Library in 2010, raises money for the program, and enrolls children, all in an effort to keep literacy growing. In her village, this means she can't go anywhere without neighbors asking, "When are the books coming, Polly?"

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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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