



BEST BEGINNINGS

Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

E-Newsletter

May 2013 E-newsletter



New statistic raises questions

Fewer than 20 percent of Alaska children entering kindergarten are prepared in all the ways experts say are important for success in school. That's according to figures recently provided by the state. This new information is a far cry from the estimates we had been using about school readiness, and [raises some important questions.](#)



Coming soon: StoryTRACKS!

Imagine a path lined with sign posts, and on each sign is a page from a children's picture book. As your family moves along, you and your children read the story. They're called StoryTRACKS, and thanks to an Anchorage Park Foundation challenge grant, they'll be available for check-out for events this summer. [Read more and find out how to volunteer.](#)

Sequestration hits home

Families with a child in Head Start and Head Start employees may find themselves in a world of hurt as federal budget cuts start taking effect. Kids' Corps' Head Start program in South Anchorage will close in August. Across Alaska, 120-140 children are expected to lose this valuable learning opportunity. [Learn more and find out what you can do.](#)

Heartfelt thanks...

...to the Alaska State Legislature and Governor Parnell for their support of Best Beginnings!

Office whiz needed

Are you able to juggle multiple tasks in a high-paced but very interesting and fun office? Best Beginnings needs an administrative coordinator, 30 hours a week, based in Anchorage. [View details.](#)

Ready! Set! Go!

Help ensure every Alaska child can start kindergarten ready to succeed. Support Best Beginnings with [your gift today.](#)

Bookin' for Books Trail Run

Great fun by the Seward/Moose Pass



Imagination Library,
Sunday, July 14.
[Learn more.](#)

Looking ahead to kindergarten

If your child is entering school this fall and you're wondering, will he be ready? Are there ways we can prepare her for success? Check out this lively brochure, "[I am ready!](#)," from the Alaska Dept. of Education & Early Development or find more ideas [on our website.](#)



A big thank you to our friends

Several corporate friends have recently committed funds to help ensure Alaska's children begin school ready to succeed: Providence Health & Services Alaska, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Denali Alaskan Federal Credit Union, and Mikunda, Cottrell & Co. And our [Investment Circle](#) keeps growing! [Read more.](#)



Praise the effort

Even if your baby is the smartest person since Einstein, don't tell her that. It's much better to praise how hard she works. Research at Stanford University found that children whose *efforts* are praised (rather than innate *smarts*) are more motivated and eager to face challenges later. [View research.](#)



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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.

Connect with us:



