

# IMAGINATION LIBRARY ALASKA



**BEST BEGINNINGS**  
Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

## Parent Survey Results 2018

Wouldn't it be nice if there was one thing with big impact we could do to help get children ready for kindergarten? There is! Read to them.

**The research is clear - children who have access to books and are read to from birth are more likely to succeed in school.** Just the mere presence of books in the home profoundly impacts a child's academic achievement.

**84%**  
of parents say  
they can tell  
reading with their  
child makes her  
excited about  
reading.

We surveyed 1,647 Alaska parents with children enrolled in Imagination Library. **We know that Imagination Library is making a difference** by increasing time spent reading, enhancing quality parent-child interactions, and developing a love of reading in thousands of Alaska children.

*"For the first time in MY life I'm enjoying reading out loud. My child and I bond while reading. I hope he always enjoys reading as much as he does now."*

Parents play a big role in helping shape their child's love of reading. Quality time spent reading with a child creates an **enthusiasm for reading and books** that will serve their child today and for years to come. A child's love and enjoyment of reading are important factors in their future academic achievement.



**87%**  
of parents say that reading with their  
child brings them closer together.

# THERE IS NO BETTER DAY TO START READING TOGETHER THAN TODAY.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that parents read to their child from birth due to the healthy effects reading has on a child's brain development.

# 81%

of parents are reading more with their child as a result of receiving books through Imagination Library in Alaska.

Reading expands a child's vocabulary. Children with larger vocabularies at age 2 enter kindergarten better prepared - socially and academically - than children with smaller vocabularies. Reading to children exposes them to more words and builds bigger vocabularies.

# 87%

of parents say their child is happy when they read together.

When parents read to their child they do so much more than tell a story. Research shows that quality time spent sharing a book boosts healthy social and emotional development. Meaningful parent-child interaction better prepares children to form friendships, communicate emotions, and deal with challenges - all critical skills for success in school and life.

## 18,581

children receive a new, high-quality book each month in the mail.

## 107

Alaska communities served by Imagination Library.

## 25

Imagination Library affiliates statewide.

*Thank you so much for helping prepare my children for a lifetime relationship with books, a love of reading, and for all the ways it brought us closer as a family.*



**\$0** cost to the family.

For more information, visit [BestBeginningsAlaska.org](http://BestBeginningsAlaska.org)