



# BEST BEGINNINGS

## Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

### November 2017 E-Newsletter



#### Talk is Cheap - and Priceless.

People say talk is cheap, but for babies, talk is priceless. Talking with babies has been shown to have an amazing impact on the growth of their brains and development of language, key to their future success in school and in life. And, unlike products that are advertised to parents as critical to making their babies smart, talking is free!

Why might this be an issue? According to a 1995 study, there can be as much as a 30 million difference in the number of words children hear by the time they are 4-years-old. [Read more](#) to learn what parents can do to be sure they are promoting crucial brain development and setting the stage for their children's success in school, and in life.

#### Alaska Imagination Library

How many books do you think Best Beginnings and our Alaska Imagination Library partners have provided to children all across the state from July-September this year? **56,252 books!** These high-quality, age-appropriate books show up in children's mailboxes every month in 107 Alaska communities.



To maintain the program for children from birth to age 5, Best Beginnings and local Imagination Libraries have accomplished a lot during these three months.

- They hosted or participated in **29 events for families with young children.**
- These events were **attended by 2,189 adults and children.**
- They gave **21 presentations** about early childhood.
- They engaged **162 volunteers.**
- And they **raised \$25,372.52 in their communities** to support the program.

Congratulations to our [Imagination Library](#) partners for all they do to help ensure all Alaska children begin school ready to succeed!



#### Thank you!

Alaska children and families succeed with community support! Best Beginnings thanks The CIRI Foundation, The Carr Foundation, and Credit Union 1 for their generous support and their demonstrated commitment to a bright future for all Alaska children.



Donate



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

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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