



IMAGINATION LIBRARY ALASKA

Parent Survey Results 2017

THE EVIDENCE IS OVERWHELMING

85%
of parents are
reading with their
children more as a
result of receiving
books through
Imagination Library
in Alaska.

The key to being ready for kindergarten, having a better chance of doing well in school, and being more likely to succeed? **Parents reading with their children from birth!**

In 2014 the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a new policy that, for the first time, strongly recommended that parents should begin reading with their babies right away.

The research is clear: just the mere presence of books profoundly impacts a child's academic achievement. And reading expands a child's vocabulary. Children with larger vocabularies at age 2 entered kindergarten better prepared - in terms of both academics and behavior - than children with smaller vocabularies.

A survey of 2,530 Alaska parents with children enrolled in Imagination Library shows the program is working - increasing time spent reading, enhancing quality parent-child interactions, and developing a love of reading in thousands of Alaska children.

I am very grateful to be a part of this program. It encourages me to keep trying to increase the time I read to him - my life is so busy right now that I really do need this encouragement. Thank you, Imagination Library.



BEST BEGINNINGS
Alaska's Early Childhood Investment



Shared reading time is quality time. Not only does reading build early literacy skills, **research tells us** it boosts healthy social and emotional development in children. When parents are engaged with their young children in meaningful ways, children are better prepared to form friendships, communicate emotions, and deal with challenges - all critical skills for success in school and beyond.

85%

of parents say they are closer with their child as a result of reading together.

86%
of parents say they can tell reading with their child makes her excited about reading.

Enthusiasm for reading and books serves children today and for their lifetime. A child's attitude toward reading and enjoyment of reading have proven to be important factors in academic achievement. Parents play the most influential role in helping their child learn to love books and reading.

86%

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

My child's experience reading Imagination Library books is magical. I love the time we spend together with those very special books.



18,737 children receive a new, high-quality book each month in the mail.

Program provided at no cost to families.

26 Imagination Library affiliates serve 107 Alaska communities.



For more information visit BestBeginningsAlaska.org