

# KAT, COLLIN & BENJI



OUR ADOPTION PROFILE

get in touch: [pairtreefamily.com/families/katandcollin](https://pairtreefamily.com/families/katandcollin)

# hello

Thank you so much for taking the time to get to know our family to see if we might be a good fit with you. No matter if you choose us or not, we wish you peace, comfort, confidence and pride as you go along this journey. We know this is a really important decision and have so much respect and admiration for you.

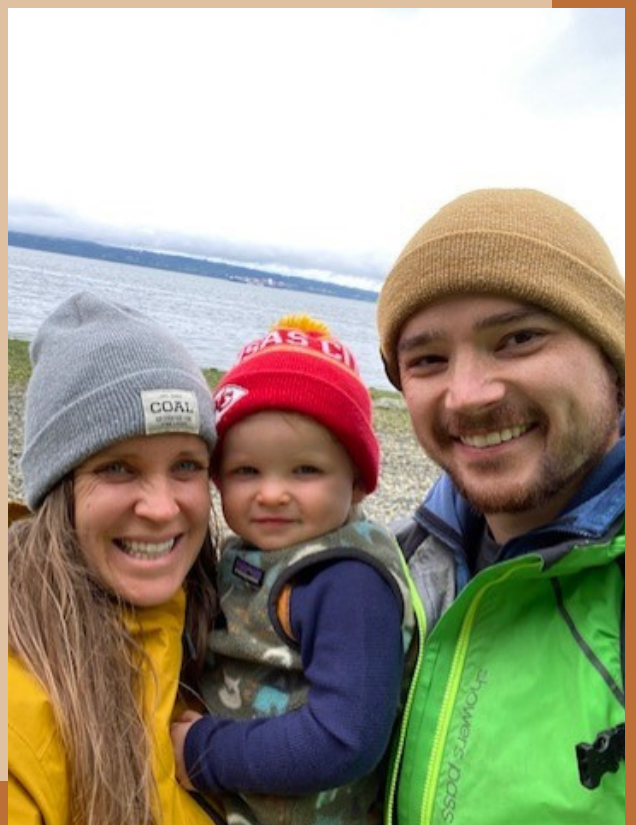
As a couple we've always talked about adopting. We were lucky to get pregnant with our 3 year-old son Benji. He has filled every day with joy, wonder and love and we are so grateful we get to be his parents. We have always wanted to have 2 kids and feel that now is the time to grow our family and fulfill Benji's wish to have a little sister or brother he could 'be a Mommy to.' We have learned a lot about parenting and feel confident in adding to our family.

Our parenting style starts with FUN. We love laughing with Benji, who is a ham, and we love doing what makes him happy. That means we read a lot, vroom trucks, dig holes, hang out with neighbors and go on day-trips to beaches around Seattle. We are both very intentional to always create a safe space for Benji to feel his emotions. We believe in positive, gentle parenting and are constantly reading and learning about how to be the best parents we can be. It's the best job in the world and we take it seriously. We are lucky to both work from home and get to spend so much quality time as a family.

Having been a teacher, I know how easy it is to deeply, unconditionally and fully love all children, regardless of biology. We will love all children in our life with our whole hearts. We'd love to get to know you more and to welcome you to our family as well if you're interested. We also completely respect any other choice you might make. We appreciate your time and consideration so much and wish you all the best on your incredible journey.

With love,

*kat, collin & benji*







We met at the University of Denver in 2003 and became friends... 13 years later we became 'us'. Collin knew Kat would be an incredible mom one day and was amazed when he saw how well she handled a whole classroom full of 6-year-olds when she was teaching in San Francisco.

We had a long-distance relationship while Collin moved back to Kansas City to take care of his mom who was battling lung cancer. Kat fell in love with the amazing care-taker Collin was and was so grateful for the time they both got to spend with his mom. We became a strong, long-distance team during a really hard time which built a strong foundation for us.

We lived together in Denver for a few years, got married, adventured around the world and then moved to Seattle when Kat's sister was pregnant because kids are a team sport!

Becoming an Aunt and Uncle was so much fun and filled our hearts with love. Becoming parents made our already full hearts burst with love for Benji. We are eager and excited to bring another child into our home and hearts because we are SO ready to love them too!



*Our Story*



# Meet Kat...

I LOVE kids SO MUCH. They are so fun and let us all be more adventurous and curious. I've been coaching kids since I was in high school and love the energy and joy they bring. After grad school in Denver I moved to San Francisco and taught 1st grade. It was SO hard. And SO amazing. I learned how strong my love could be for all children - it made me want to adopt. I moved back to Denver after 4 years of teaching in the hopes that Collin and I would grow our relationship. It worked!

I opened a middle school and have worked for an education non-profit for 10 years now which fills me with joy. When my twin sister got pregnant I knew it was time to move back to Seattle so I could be a super-involved aunt.

I could not love my niece, nephew and 3-year-old son more and am SO ready to welcome another child to our family!

## FAVORITES

- fresh air
- sparkling water
- being a mom & aunt
- our neighbors
- watching Benji learn
- daily exercise
- costumes
- being around kids
- Collin's cooking
- reading with Benji





# Meet Collin...

I grew up in Kansas City where I spent most of my time at skate parks. I went to college and lived in Denver for 15 years and now have started a family in Seattle.

I'm focused on teaching our son Benji how to be a happy, kind, and thoughtful little guy. When I'm not with my family I'm riding my bike or watching sports. I work as a web developer for Warner Bros and can't wait for Benji to be old enough to learn about all the fun characters and superheroes!

I think that being a parent has been the most rewarding part of my life and feel that adding another to our family would make it that much more amazing.

I'm a diehard Kansas City Chiefs fan and love to make BBQ during the fall.

This is a tradition I will be passing down. I hope I can raise some little NFL fans, whoever they cheer for!



## FAVORITES

- Being with family & friends
- Making my son laugh
- Eating great food
- Traveling
- Finding new experiences
- Riding my mountain bike
- Cooking new recipes
- Watching the Kansas City Chiefs

# Meet Our Kiddo - Benji

Benji is such a fun kid and he brings us  
**SO.MUCH.JOY!**

We feel incredibly lucky to be his parents and know he will be an amazing big brother. He wants to be a Mommy when he grows up and is gentle and kind to his younger cousin so we know he will do great.

He enjoys digging, helping neighbors in their yards, biking, bouncing on trampolines, baking bread, drawing fire trucks, getting his own snacks from his mini-fridge, operating his pretend restaurant, helping us clean.... he really enjoys doing it all!

B loves his 4 and 2 year-old cousins so much. The 3 of them are best friends and are more than ready to add another kid to their crew! They will love this child so much and will all be amazing care-takers and teachers.

We can't wait to see what our next child is interested in and want to help them explore the world around them.

We will make sure to honor their culture and heritage and will celebrate their journey to our family.



Benji is best buds with all our garbage truck drivers who came to his birthday party and made him feel so loved. It was really special.





# Fun Facts



## *kat*

- taught 1st grade
- trained new teachers & opened a new school
- was a Make-A-Wish granter
- has coached youth sports
- loves scavenger hunts
- makes friends wherever she goes

## *benji*

- loves to grow blueberries in our garden
- great at telling people how he is feeling
- enjoys going to new places & on adventures
- 'drives' excavators
- has mastered his pedal bike

## *collin*

- was a skating instructor
- learning to roast coffee
- moved home to take care of his mom when she had cancer
- loves silly nicknames
- does funny accents at story time





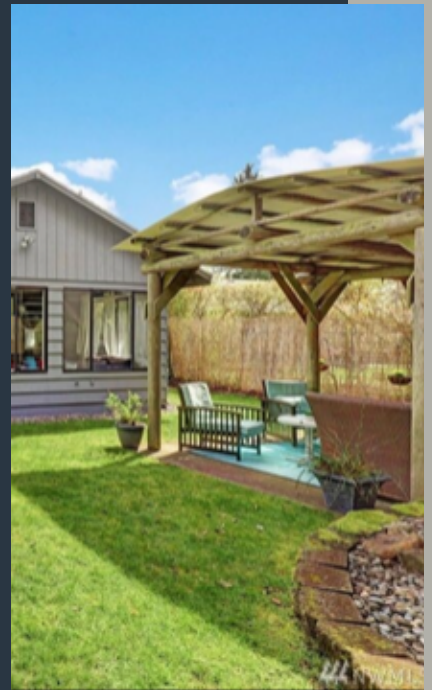
# Our home



Before Benji was born we remodeled our home and made a great big kitchen/dining/living room so we can maximize our time together. We have a cozy sunroom (turned train/truck room) where Benji creates, builds and plays.

We know it's important for kids to feel independent and see how much pride he gets from being able to take care of himself so we have designed our spaces to enable Benji to be Mr. Independent and it's awesome!

We spend tons of time in our yard playing & chatting with neighbors. Since Benji has nut allergies we make most food from scratch and all eat healthier because of it. The most important part of our home is that it's surrounded by incredible neighbors who have become like family to us.





# Our Family Support



Baking with Nonnie

We live a few blocks from Kat's sister & parents who are amazing. We are lucky to have such an involved family and support system. Nonnie & Boppa watch all the grandkids multiple times a week and have so much fun. Benji spends tons of time with his big and little cousin so he's ready to help take care of a sibling of his own. Our extended family can't wait to have another child to love.



Benji is Boppa's best helper



Visiting our friend's huge truckyard - it's better than Disneyland



Merry Christmas from our family and Santa Boppa



Horsey rides





## Boppa

Boppa (Kat's dad) is super handy and teaches Benji how to fix things. They have a shared love of all-things construction. B loves being Boppa's sidekick and also loves to sit on his lap and read books. They build lots of train tracks, go for boat rides and love each other so much.

## Nonnie

Nonnie (Kat's mom) teaches Benji how to sew "Nonnie is a good fixer!" and how to bake. She reads 'bonus books' at nap time and loves to spoil the kids and always has homemade cookies to share. She & Boppa take care of Benji and his cousins 3 days a week while we work from home.

## YaYa & Uncle Tommy

YaYa (Kat's sister) and her husband treat Benji like their own 2 kids, Ella & Jimmy. They are SO excited to welcome another child into the family and will love our baby so much. We see each other most days and share lots of meals (Uncle Tommy is a great cook)!





# Our Neighborhood



Our local beach club where we spend every day in the summer in the pool and lake. Music Mondays are great for kid-dancing!



Our annual cul-de-sac potluck party with a live band, chalk-art, water-balloons and tons of fun!



Our awesome neighbors who are members of our extended family at Benji's cul-de-sac birthday party



Benji helping our neighbor dig

We are so lucky to live in a cul-de-sac with the nicest, most caring neighbors. All the kids are older so we get the cool hand-me-downs and have an incredible village of extended family who love and care for Benji. We learn so much from our handy, artistic, musically gifted, garden-pro, jam-making, neighbor-friends. They are all thrilled for us to adopt so they can LOVE another child just as much!



# A Day in Our Life...



wake-up



Go to pre-school for 3 hours or go on an adventure to the zoo, a beach, fire station, etc.



Make lunch, do some baking or art or science. Help tidy up, read and take a rest.



Watch Boppa do a puppet show, soccer practice, go swimming, ride bikes in the cul-de-sac.



Eat dinner, play, brush teeth, read stories and go to sleep to grow bigger!





# Thank you



We hope through these pictures you've been able to see the kind of life we'd share with another child in our family. It is one full of joy, adventures, family, amazing neighbors and lots of fun. The teacher in Kat really shines through as a mom and the caretaker in Collin is such a beautiful gift to share with more children. We'd be so honored to meet with you and wish you all the best on your journey.



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# *This is us. .*



canoe ride at Boppa & Nonnie's house



baking with Nonnie



Fire Fighter Benji



silly family photos in the forest near our homes



Kat's 1st graders 15 years ago! Kat loved having hot pink hair when she lived in San Francisco as a teacher and loved her students more than she ever could have imagined!!



This is us...





# Holiday Fun!

