



A Newsletter for Parents of Young Children

SUMMER 2015

The Parent Line

Bonding with your child

We as parents strive everyday in everything we do to create a pleasant environment for our children; an environment that will make our child feel positive and open and willing to talk to us about any and everything. Sometimes no matter how much or how hard we try, our child will not open up and share. During these times, we have to remember that we cannot give up on him/her.

Try the art of reading stories about the topics we would like to discuss with him/her. Some parents read the stories out loud during bedtime and then leave the books on the table during the day for the child to look through when he/she chooses.

Other parents choose television programs or movies to watch with their child on specific topics. In this new age that we live in it is easy to find previews of movies and therefore plan an event, popcorn included. Enjoy the movie or tv program and let the conversation flow if it will, do not force your child.

Another trick to get a child to talk is to make a book. Sometimes a child loves to have a photo taken of him/her play acting. Get involved by providing dress-up clothing and the camera. After the photos are taken, work together to make a simple scrapbook. Have the child talk about the pictures. If you are clever, you can draw out the conversation by following the child's lead, then in turn leading the conversation.

And then there are times when a child just wants to sit close to you and not talk. Accept those times, for very soon the day will come when your child will be off playing with friends.



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Outdoor Fun

Observation Walk

Take a walk with your child. As you walk ask your child to look at the different ways people are moving. Examples: walking, running, biking, driving, etc. Ask your child to tell you how the people are moving. During your walk, suggest that the two of you find and name things that grow. Examples: trees, flowers, weeds, cats, people, dogs, etc. Ask, "Do rocks, streets, or cars grow?"

Source: <http://www.preschoolrainbow.org/preschoolers.htm>

Suggested Readings

ONLINE RESOURCES

- **Reading Is Fundamental, Inc.**
www.rif.org/parents, www.rif.org/readingplanet
- **National Association for the Education of Young Children**
www.naeyc.org
- **PBS Kids**
www.pbskids.org
- **PBS Parents**
www.pbs.org/parents



PRINT RESOURCES

*The Cooking Book:
Fostering Young Children's Learning and Delight*
LAURA J. COLKER. NAEYC, 2004

*The Complete Book of Rhymes,
Songs, Poems, Fingerplays, and Chants*
JACKIE SILBERG, PAM SCHILLER. GRYPHON HOUSE, 2002

How to Get Your Child to Love Reading
ESMÉ RAJI CODELL. ALGONQUIN, 2003

Source: http://www.rif.org/assets/Documents/parents/RIF_Preschool.pdf

Special Days to Remember

June is National Safety Month

June 11 King Kamehameha Day
June 14 Flag Day
June 21 Father's Day
July 4 Independence Day
August 21 Statehood Day

SUMMER ART ACTIVITY

Personal Placemats

MATERIALS

Clear contact paper (many, many uses for this so buy a big roll). Large sheet of art paper about 12 X 14 inches, paint or crayons.

DESCRIPTION

Let your child draw a picture on both sides of the paper or if you are using sloppy paints use 2 sheets and secure them back to back with tape. "Laminate" them with the clear contact paper! They can be used over and over for months or until your child decides to make a new one.

Source: http://www.preschoolrainbow.org/preschoolers.htm#New_Activities

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

Driveway Safety

Kids love cars, and when they see a parked car, they don't even think about the possibility of getting hurt or seriously injured. That's why parents have to. Many preventable injuries and deaths occur in driveways or parking lots when drivers are unaware that children are near vehicles. Tragically, these drivers are often family members or friends of the injured child.

HARD FACTS

Each year, more than 9,000 children are treated in emergency rooms for injuries that occurred while they were unattended in or around motor vehicles. Many of these preventable injuries occur when drivers are unaware of children near vehicles. These injuries are easily prevented by following a few simple tips.

TOP TIPS

- We know you're often in a hurry, but before you drive away, take a few seconds to walk all the way around your parked car to check for children.
- Designate a safe spot for children to wait when nearby vehicles are about to move and make sure the drivers can see them.
- Accompany little kids when they get in and out of a vehicle. Hold their hands while walking near moving vehicles or in driveways and parking lots or on sidewalks.

LEARN MORE

Making the space in and around your car safe for kids requires a few more steps. Learn more about how to protect your kids from heatstroke in cars or getting trapped in the trunk. Also check out more tips on how to keep your driveway safe.

(Source: http://www.safekids.org/safetytips/field_risks/driveway-safety)

