Parenting Advice: Make Your Own Fresh Baby Food





Βv

Ivana Jarmon

Making your own fresh baby food means you know exactly what you're feeding your baby, it also means saving money. By making your fresh baby food, you can expose your child to a wide variety of flavors. You also expose them to a much healthier and nutrition filled diet. Homemade baby food can be very simple: you could choose from fresh or canned fruit, fresh or frozen produce, grains etc. A great, easy baby food to make from scratch is a fruit or vegetable puréed food. Puréed baby food allows your baby to practice their chewing and swallowing skills. To show you how easy it is to puree. We have some parenting advice to help you make your own fresh peach puree baby food. Recipe was used from Premeditated Leftovers Recipe.

Check out our parenting advice on how to make your own fresh baby food!

1. Ingredients and tools: Grab your ingredients from your local grocery store. You will need: 6 peaches to make enough to fill 1 standard ice tray). Tools: hand held peeler, blender or food processor, small to medium pot with steamer basket and water. This recipe serves 12, prep time should take 15 mins, cook time 15 mins. Everything should take about 30 mins.

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Nursery

2. Process: You will first want to peel and cook them first, either by baking or boiling them. It will not only make it easier for you to puree them, but the cooking process will prove easier for your baby digestion system.

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Parent

- 3. Directions: You will want to begin by peeling your peaches and cut them into smaller pieces. Fill your pot with water, a little below the steamer basket, and then you're your peaches and top it off with the lid. Allow the water to come to a low boil and let your peaches to steam for 15 minutes. FYI the larger and firmer the pieces are, the more time they will need. Remove once you can easy cut the peach with a fork. Place the peaches in your blender and puree.
- **4. Finish:** Feed your baby and watch them enjoy their homemade meal! Be sure to pack away the left overs and put them in the refrigerator or freezer.

Have any more tips on how to make fresh baby food? Comment Below.

Parenting Advice: How to Decorate Your Modern Nursery





By **Hal**

<u>ey Lerner</u>

When you're expecting a new child, there are a lot of things to worry about. One of those things is nesting and getting a room all set up to house your new precious baby. So, are you looking to design the perfect nursery for your little tot? We've got the <u>parenting advice</u> to help you perfectly decorate a modern nursery for your baby.

Check out our parenting advice on how to decorate your modern nursery!

- 1. Neutral tones: One way to make your child's nursery feel really modern is by sticking to neutral colors and avoiding the usual choices like pinks, blues and yellows. Try decorate in shades of gray, white and black. These neutral colors will allow colorful accent pieces in the room to stand out.
- 2. Fun lighting: Spruce up your nursery with some cool lighting fixtures. Find a light fixture that can be a statement piece in the room. Whether it's a funky chandelier, contemporary lamps or a neon light sign, go for something that will add character to the room.

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: Make Popsicles with Your Kids</u>
This Summer

- **3. Wallpaper:** Another way to make a room more modern is by using wallpaper. Pick a wall of the room to be a feature wall and cover it with a funky patterned wallpaper.
- **4. Mirrors:** If you want to make a nursery look bigger and more modern, incorporate several mirrors into the design of the room. It'll reflect light and make the room look sharper.

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Parenting

5. Paint the ceiling: Another fun option if you're bold is to paint the nursery ceiling. If you keep the rest of the room neutral, paint the ceiling with bold bright stripes or a fun, bright color.

Have any more tips on how to decorate a modern nursery? Comment below!

Parenting Trend: Royal Baby Names





By **Hal**

<u>ey Lerner</u>

Choosing a name for your child can be extremely tough. You can look through hundreds of baby name books and still not know what to name your little tot. Luckily, we have England's royal family to inspire us with some names perfect for any baby. When Prince William and Kate Middleton's first child Prince George was born, the name George climbed up the top 10 list of baby names for England and Wales, according to the Office for National Statistics. So, we've got the perfect parenting advice for you to jump on this parenting trend and give your new addition a royal baby name.

Check out our parenting advice on how to choose a royal baby name for your child!

- 1. Traditional monarchical names: One way to go in choosing a royal baby name is by going for a more traditional and elegant name, like Victoria or Edward. These names might not be as common as those currently in the royal family, so one may be a unique choice for your child!
- 2. Older names: If you prefer a baby name that won't be common, go for a name from older rulers in England, like Matilda, Joan, Edgar or Alfred.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Maternity Style: Get Inspired by These</u>
<u>Celebrity Baby Nurseries</u>

- **3. Modern names:** If you really love the current royal family, go for a more modern royal name. Whether it's Harry, William, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Louis, Phillip or George, these names can easily be a great fit for your child.
- **4. Unusual names:** Looking for an extra special name for your child? Go for one that's from another royal family outside of Great Britain. Try out Xenia, Zara, Savannah, Cosima, Octavius, Lionel, Nikolai or Charlene.

Related Link: Product Review: Baby Fashion for Easy & Cute
Parenting

5. Opt out of using a royal name: If naming your baby after royals isn't your thing, don't fret! It's perfectly fine to instead go for any name you like. Check out baby name websites and books to find the name you feel is just right!

Have any more tips on how to name your baby after a royal? Comment below!

Parenting Advice: Social Media for Children





Βy

<u>Jessica Gomez</u>

Ah, social media — youth and older people alike are very involved in it. When it comes to your children, you obviously want them to be safe when it comes to the web. Social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat are more for teens and adults than they are for children though. The good news is, there are social media platforms specifically designed for our youth. This is great because it can let parents relax a little. Nevertheless, you want to make sure that you have a serious conversation with your children about safety on social media.

Here are a few fun social media sites for your children to use along with some parenting advice on how to make sure your kids are safe when it comes to the web:

Make sure to sit down with your children and have a talk about the positives and the dangers of social media. Let them know that they must think before friending people and before clicking the send button. Also, make sure to monitor their activities online. With that being said, have an open line of communication with your kids and make sure there is trust there. This will really help now and in the long run.

Now, here are the social media sites for your little ones:

1. <u>Kidzworld</u>: What is cool about this site is the multi uses for it. Your child will have the choice to create a profile, message friends, partake in secure chat rooms, play online games, create polls, write blogs, and read movie and tv reviews, articles on family and other topics on life! The site is moderated and is for ages nine to 16.

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About Sexual Assault

2. Gromsocial: Parents will be spiked to know that this site is actively monitored 24/7, and adults can only access it once it is confirmed that they are the parents of a user. It's also password protected and parents can receive emails on their child's online activity. Wow! This site gives kids the option to chat, share videos, and get help with their homework. Sounds great to us!

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3. Club penguin: This is more of a place to play games, but children can chat with any other penguins (other children). This is a Disney site where children are penguins and can explore. They play games with other users, live in igloos that they can decorate, and more. This fun site is a community that encourages kids to be friendly and creative. Also, this site does not allow third party advertisements and they monitor all chats.

Which social media platform are you excited for your child to try? Comment below!

Parenting Tips: Make Popsicles with Your Kids This Summer





By **Hal**

ey Lerner

In the summer, school is out and your kids are typically spending more time at home. This means that coupled with the sticky hot weather, you have rambunctious children to entertain! Everyone knows the perfect summer treat to cool down is ice cream, but instead of waiting for the ice cream truck to come down your block, why not make a yummy dessert yourself? Or even better, have your little tots help you make them. We have the parenting advice to help make your summer extra sweet with homemade popsicles.

Check out these parenting tips on how to make popsicles with your kids this summer:

1. Pick out ingredients: Head to the grocery store, and let your child pick out his or her favorite popsicle ingredients. If you're looking to go the simple route, any fruit juice is a good base. If you're ready to put more work into it (and have a juicer/blender at home), pick out some fresh fruit (and some

green veggies if you can manage to sneak them in). Consider picking up whole fruits like blueberries or strawberries to throw in at the end as well.

2. Get a mold: It's important you have something to put all that fruit juice into, so while you're at the grocery store, pick out some small paper cups. Some stores even sell special popsicle molds. Don't forget to grab popsicle sticks, too!

Related Link: Parenting Tips: 5 Spring Activities To Do With Your Child

- 3. Put it all together: Once home with all of your ingredients, enlist the help of your kid(s) to help put the popsicles together. Help your child pour the juice or fruit puree (after you blend it) into the popsicle molds. It's the perfect parent-child activity that will be super fun for your little chef.
- **4. Let it freeze:** After placing popsicle sticks in the middle of your fruit juice, carefully put all the molds in the freezer and take them out when the pops are frozen. Then, carefully pull the mold off and give your child the perfect frozen treat!

Related Link: Parenting Tips: Rainy Day Activities

5. Eat the popsicles outside: It's summer, so enjoy the nice weather while it lasts! Set up a picnic in your yard or at a park, and enjoy the fresh popsicles with your children. Spend a perfect summer day eating your healthy cold snack and playing in the sun.

Do you have any more tips for making the perfect summer popsicles? Comment them below!

Product Review: The Next Best Crib Mattress to Help You Become a Parenting Pro





Вν

Rachel Sparks

This post was sponsored by Colgate Mattress.

This <u>product review</u> features the newest technology and innovation for baby sleeping gear. Colgate Mattress, the leading USA-based infant mattress manufacturer, has introduced a new mattress that will ensures your baby sleeps safely and lets you have a sound night of rest. You'll be confident in offering your own <u>parenting tips</u> after you buy this amazing mattress!

This product review of Colgate Mattresses will help you and your love slay at parenting!

Released March 20, 2018, the newest sleeping technology for infants is the best the market has to offer. The Colgate zenBaby collection offers three types of mattresses for your little one's needs. The Hybrid 2-in-1 cares for your baby up through toddler ages. This mattress features varying degrees of stiffness to develop posture and, above all, safety. The 2-Stage mattress is a lightweight option composed of dual zone certified eco foam. Colgate's third option, the Portable Crib Mattress, is ultra-lighweight for parenting on the go. The mattress's cover is tear-resistant, waterproof, and easy to clean.

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While these mattresses evolve to your children's growing needs and to your desires for versatility, they also promote child safety. KulKote technology is a water-based coating design that adapts to your baby's temperatures, maintaining cool comfort.

What other product review can help your little one feel like a <u>celebrity baby</u>? Colgate produced the first foam crib mattress from sustainable plant-based oils. All of Colgate's products are hypoallergenic, odorless, and GREENGUARD Gold and CertiPUR-US safe for no harmful emissions. You can feel like parent of the year by buying something that's both great for your baby and the planet!

Related Link: 3 Must-Have Items for Running Errands with Yours Kids

When you buy a Colgate mattress, you know you're buying quality. The Hybrid 2-in-1 mattress from the zenBaby collection was announced the Juvenile Products Manufacturer Association (JPMA) 2018 Innovation award during its release last month. Priced at \$273.99, it's the most expensive of the zenBaby options, but well worth the investment into a healthy baby and your peace of mind. The 2-Stage is priced at \$218.99 and the Portable Crib Mattress is at an affordable \$64.99.

We love the peace of mind Colgate's zenBaby mattress collection gives us. Are you ready to buy one or two for the babies in your life? Check out their website at colgatekids.com or check out their Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram.

Parenting Tips: 5 Spring Activities To Do With Your Child





Βv

Jessica Gomez

Spring is here, and kids are ready for it! There are many fun activities to do with your child this season; the list is practically endless. However, where do you start when there is so much to do? A parenting tip is to be aware of what your child's interests. With that being said, we have come up with five activities to get your spring going. Do one, do some, or do them all!

You obviously want to have fun this spring with your munchkin, so get ready for our <u>parenting advice</u> on outdoor activities to do during this blooming season:

Cupid's Advice:

The following five ideas are sure to keep you and your little one busy. Your child is sure to have fun with these activities, and they'll also help you bond:

- 1. Picnic: When it's nice out, prepare yummy snacks together and set up a picnic. During the picnic, indulge in what you've put together. You can also partake in certain activities like blowing bubbles, flying a kite, going on a scavenger hunt, and playing games like football, soccer and flag football. Sounds like a fun day!
- 2. Planting flowers and plants: This is a nice and productive activity. You can plant in your backyard, front yard, or in any approved place in your neighborhood. You child will not only learn how to garden, but they'll also build a connection with nature while making the world a more beautiful place.

Related link: Parenting Tips: 5 Unique Ways to Have Fun in the Sun with Your Child

- **3. Take photos and make a scrap book:** Go out and enjoy the spring day. Take photos in the mist of all the blooming beauty around you. Take photos of nature and yourselves, and then create a scrapbook. To give it more of a spring feel, you can add flowers and leaves to your scrapbook as decorations.
- **4. Bike riding:** This is an activity that gets you to workout while being fun. Go for a ride at the park or by a beautiful body of water to take in the scenery. If your child doesn't know how to ride a bike yet, then its time to teach them!

Related Link: <u>Product Review: 3 Must-Have Items for Running</u> Errands With Your Kids

5. Go to an animal sanctuary: Ditch zoos and aquariums that capture animals to cage them for human entertainment. Instead go to an animal sanctuary where the animals were rescued and are now living happily. Your child is sure to enjoy themselves by learning about them and cuddling with those cute beings.

Which of these activities are you excited to do with your kid? Comment below!

Parenting Tips: Eating Healthy





Вγ

<u>Carly Horowitz</u>

It's extremely important to showcase a healthy lifestyle as a parent. The eating habits that you start your children with set the pace for how your children will eat in the future and throughout the rest of their lives. It's all about balance. Obviously your kids want some treats every so often, and that's okay. As long as most of the foods you are feeding them are healthy, then that is perfect. We all know that sometimes this can be a challenge! Luckily, Cupid is here with some tips and tricks on how to get your kids to eat healthy!

Introduce your children to a healthy lifestyle with these parenting tips!

Here are some clever tips and tricks to help your kids be the healthiest they can be:

- 1. Go on an adventure: If your children are struggling to enjoy fresh fruits and vegetables, take them to a farm and have them experience picking the fruits and vegetables themselves! Kids love hands-on activities, and this is a great way for them to feel in charge of their own food consumption. Maybe if they pick the blueberries and tomatoes themselves, they will want to eat them!
- 2. Dip it in: Try adding enhancing ingredients to your children's food to make the experience more delicious for them! Dip vegetables in ranch, hummus, or salsa. Sprinkle some sugar on fruits, or dip them in a yogurt-based sauce! Also, here's another interesting tipe: brown sugar can go very well with carrots. Every child has different tastes, so figure out which works best for them personally. It may take some experimenting, but you will have your kids eating healthy in no time.

Related Link: <u>Product Review: 3 Must-Have Items for Running</u> Errands With Your Kids

3. Playful peer pressure: Invite over someone who your child looks up to for dinner —maybe their older cousin or friend. Make it clear that they are eating the healthy food on their plate and so little Johnny should too so that they can be like him! There are plenty of encouraging television shows and YouTube videos as well that promote healthy eating for children. You can even show them that celebrity kids like Bear Blu Jarecki and Rocco Ritchie eat very healthy as well!

4. Cook with them: This is another hands-on activity that can engage your child in eating healthy. When you are preparing dinner, invite the kids to help out so that they will feel like they're contributing. They would be silly not to try eating the healthy meal they have just helped prepare!

Related Link: Parenting Tips: 5 Tips for Co-Parenting

Bonus tip- Watch sugary drinks: Most kids love juice and those yummy, sugary, calorie-packed drinks. Try to limit your child's juice intake to just one cup of juice per day. Prompt them to then drink water throughout the day! Staying hydrated is very important, especially for active kids.

What are some other tips and tricks to get your kids eating healthy? Comment below!

Parenting Advice: How to Keep Your Kids Motivated Throughout the Rest of the School Year





Ву

Jessica Gomez

Your child's school year is almost over! However, as they approach the finish line, some students may get off track. This is unfortunate considering that they're so close to the end! Having a support system to encourage kids with their studies is essential. The approach to motivating your children can depend on the child's age. However, some methods can be useful for children of any age if they're customized or "tailored" to the girl or boy, and that is where you, the parent, comes in!

Keep your child motivated with this <u>parenting advice</u>, along with some examples from <u>celebrity</u> <u>parents</u>:

1. Stay involved: When you are constantly involved in parent teacher meetings and school events, your child is more likely to keep their interest in school going. Being active in your child's school not only helps you keep an eye on them, but

also familiarizes you with the environment they're in for the majority of the week. Being attentive is key. Celebrity couple Beyoncé and Jay-Z stay involved with daughter Blue Ivy's school. Bey volunteered at a fundraiser last year where she performed three hit songs, while Jay-Z attends PTA meetings. And, the duo alternates picking her up and dropping her off to school. If this busy, power couple can make the time, so can you!

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2. Create a reward system while keeping yourself up-to-date: Whether the reward is big or small, a reward is a reward. For example, having your kids do their homework straight after school before taking part in other activities is one way to do it. After doing their homework, getting to play, watch TV, or do any other acceptable activity is a reward. When creating and implementing a reward system, it is important to keep yourself updated with your child's work. Make sure they do their homework and projects, and don't forget to ask them how school went and what they learned. For a little more information on creating reward systems (specifically ones based on the child's age), read on here along with other creative ideas on Pinterest.

Related Link: <u>How to Connect with Your Teenager</u>

3. Encourage them: This sounds simple, but many parents tend to sometimes miss it. School becomes something they expect their kids to do because they have to, but that does not mean that it requires any less encouragement than any other activity. Sometimes we're focused on tough love or are just not as involved as we should be (back to tip #1 above). Whichever the case, parents need to find different ways to keep their kids going. Be their cheerleaders! Many celebrity parents like Sarah Jessica Parker, Jennifer Lopez, Sarah Michelle Gellar, Jessica Alba, and David Beckham, took the

approach of encouraging their kids on the first day of school by posting photos on social media — photos can be seen here. This can also work toward the ending of the school year because it's an exciting time that should be celebrated.

Related Link: 5 Tips for Co-Parenting

4. Create a nice, clean work space for them: Having a study area free from clutter and unlimited distractions is an important space to have. It encourages you to do work and keeps you situated. Ideally, a good work space will be organized, well-lit, and comfortable. If your child is easily distracted by what's going on outside, their study space should be away from any windows. If they work well in silence, choosing the quietest place is a good idea. If they like some low background music, choose a space where you can set that up. Learn your child's learning and productivity style, and then appoint a space as their study area based upon it.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Parents Open Up About Their Best Parenting Advice</u>

5. Share a productive and motivating lifestyle with them: Your mentality has a big say in how motivated and productive you are. Besides controlling your way of thinking, there are a few ways to change your lifestyle and your child's. Getting eight hours of sleep is important, depending on your child's age, even 10 hours of sleep is good for them. Many kids don't get the proper amount of sleep, which makes them too tired to be fully focused and productive in school. A good diet is also important because your child needs the energy to do well in school and in the other parts of their lives. Dark fruits and vegetables along with ones rich in Vitamin B (like broccoli, spinach, celery, beets, blueberries, apples, potatoes, and beans) improve memory and cognition and are also good for alertness. And of course, stay fit by exercising together as well.

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These are just a few ways to help your child stay motivated for the rest of the school year — there are many more! Being a parent is a huge responsibility, and in order to do the job right, you have to know your child and incorporate different aspects of life into your parenting style, like described above.

What are some ways you keep your little one motivated as they become eager to finish the school year? Share below!

Parenting Tips: Rainy Day Activities





Ву

Karley Kemble

It's raining, and your kiddos are loving the day inside. At first, they'rere having a blast playing with their toys, but now they're becoming restless with their pent-up energy. (There are only so many toys, after all, you don't have a celebrity baby!) You still can't go out since it's wet and raining, so what is there to do? If you've ever been in this predicament, you know how frustrating it can be for you and your kids! The days where you can't go outside are always the days that your kids want to go outside the most! Never fear, Cupid is here. The next time rain tries to put a damper to your day, you'll have an arsenal of games and activities ready to go!

These <u>parenting tips</u> are sure to alleviate rainy day restlessness and boredom!

1. Build a pillow fort: Relive the days of your childhood, and build a pillow fort with your kids! The best forts don't need

much: just pillows or couch cushions, blankets, and chairs. Forts are truly a timeless art form and can be used for many different purposes. Your kiddos will have a blast playing pretend all day and hanging out inside!

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Your Child

2. Create a scavenger hunt: Scavenger hunts are an awesome way to release pent-up energy. You can set the stakes high with a new toy, or simply hide some candy bars. Get bonus points for having a cohesive theme for the entire hunt, such as pirates or princesses. You'll find that your little ones will really get into the theme and feel as though they're actually looking for buried treasure!

Related Link: Parenting Tips: How To Cope With Stress

3. Make a mini museum: Make the old feel new again to your kids, and turn your living room into a museum. Have your kids set up shop by making displays of whatever they feel like showing off — toys, books, and pieces of art — the list is endless! Once the museum is "ready to open," have your kids act as the museum docents and take you on a tour. Encourage them to share the history and backstories of all the items, whether they are true or not!

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: 5 Unique Ways to Have Fun in the Sun with Your Child</u>

- 4. Get crafty: There are tons of crafts you can do while being cooped up inside. One of the biggest DIY crafts with kids right now is "slime." All you need is Elmer's glue, borax, water, and food coloring! Crafts keep your kids occupied and engaged and truly help develop their creativity. They'll also have tons of pride once they have a completed product.
- 5. Bring out the board games: Contrary to what most people may think, board games are still alive and thriving. Kids aren't

just glued to their technology; they still like board games! Rainy days are the perfect opportunity to open that cabinet full of games and spend quality time with each other. These moments will instill many wonderful memories within your kids' lives, too!

What do you like to do on rainy days? Tell us in the comments — we'd love to hear about it!

Product Review: Killer Last Minute Christmas Gifts





Вν

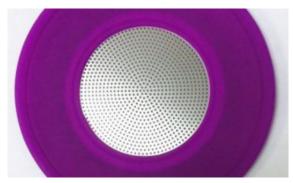
Rachel Sparks

Christmas is less than a week away and with all the chaos and

crowds in stores, last minute shopping for Christmas gifts is a nightmare. We've got the perfect gifts to help you finish your Christmas list! Read Cupid's product reviews to help you manage your running-out-of-time holiday stress!

These last minute Christmas gifts will help you ace Christmas!

Drink Tops:



Drink Tops. Photo: Twitter/@drinktops

Drink tops are the best <u>parenting tip</u> we have for you! Avoid a crying toddler who spilled their drink, bugs getting into sweet-smelling juices, or the frustration of mixing up cups with these cute, friendly faced cup lids that come in fun colors! BPA-free silicone helps your mind rest easy that what you're giving your kid is not only good for your anxiety levels, but good for their health, too. With a single tap on the lid, Drink Tops will seal onto any glass up to four inches wide. They keep drinks cooler longer, are reusable, durable, and dishwasher safe.

Groove Life Ring:



Groove Life Rings. Photo Courtesy of Veteran PR.

The Groove Life ring is a safe ring that keeps comfort at the forefront. Made from low profile silicone and carved with their patented design, the ring promotes airflow for the fingers, keeping moisture out and preventing poor circulation. It's far more comfortable than the traditional metal ring and doesn't get stuck on anything like it's metal counterpart! It's safe, comfortable, and stylish.

Fire Department Coffee:



Fire Department Coffee. Photo courtesy of Veteran PR.

Fire Department Coffee is coffee with an admirable mission and that's tasty for the consumer. Coming in a variety of blends and flavors, their original medium roast is one of the easiest drinking coffees you will ever have. If you like something bolder, their dark roast is made from organic beans and comes from fair trade farms. Their newest flavor: Bourbon-infused. It has the smoothness of Bourbon totally guilt-free. A portion of all sales are donated to military and fire-related charities. Military and first-responders receive 15% off their first order.

Isabella Grace Breast Cancer Bracelet:



Isabelle Grace Jewelry. Photo courtesy of HCPR Group.

With a great mission behind the company, each design supports breast cancer awareness and making women feel beautiful and strong. Isabella Grace bracelets are all about being unique and elegant, with a timeless and effortless look. Made by hand in the USA from recycled materials whenever possible. The bracelets are a symbol of the importance of living with hope and strength. With a sizable celebrity following, such as Katherine Heigl, Courtney Lopez, Alyson Hannigan, and Christina Milian, these bracelets are gorgeous for any woman to wear.

SNL Wine:



SNL Wine. Photo courtesy of Kevin Mclean

The name is exactly what you think. The famous show partnered with winemaker Lot18 and Universal Development to create four unique hand-crafted blends that embody the characters of the show. The four blends include a 2016 California Red Blend, a 2016 Stefon Beaujolais, a 2016 Debbie Downer South Eastern Australia Chardonnay, and a 2015 Californians Monterey County Merlot. There is a limited supply of each, so rush to their site and get your own.

Try out these incredible last minute Christmas gifts to save your holiday!

Parenting Tips: 5 Fun Ways to Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Your Kids





Ву

Rachel Sparks

St. Patrick's Day is a fun holiday, but a lot of kids don't understand how fun it can be. Win parent of the year with these St. Patty's Day activities fit for the whole family. Celebrate with famous Irish folks, such as Gwen Stefani, John Travolta, Meryl Streep, and Harrison Ford, among so many! Cupid's parenting tips will help make this green-filled, gold-coin, leprechaun-hunting holiday an unforgettable day for everyone!

Parenting Tips: The 5 Best Ways to Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Your Family!

1. Green-themed food: Get your kids excited for St. Pat's Day with green food! Guacamole and fried spinach tortillas are a delicious starter. Make a party of decorating a cake. Make a kid-friendly green bar, serving green ginger ale, green sprite, or Mountain Due!

Related Link: Parenting Tips to Stay Sane for the Rest of the

Summer

- 2. Build a leprechaun trap: Kids love imagination and lore, so let them get wild with this one! Tell them stories about leprechauns and then give them a cardboard box and all the craft supplies they need to catch that little rascal.
- 3. Make a traditional Irish dinner: Food makes everyone come together and, generally speaking, full bellies make happy people. Try out some traditional Irish recipes! Irish soda bread, a classic, is the heart of the meal. Shepherd's pie, Kale Colcannon, and Guinness-marinated beef are just a few hearty ideas for this grand meal.

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- 4. Shamrocks and clovers: Long ivy tendrils, rolling green hills, moss-ridden cliffs, natural green is everywhere in Ireland. Get into the natural tradition of the Irish by celebrating shamrocks and clovers! Spend the day at the park with your family looking for four leaf clovers or have a fun time teaching your kiddos how to garden by planting shamrocks.
- **5. On the hunt:** Make a scavenger hunt for your kids! Tell them that there's a pot of gold at the end of it to pump up the excitement with a sizable reward. For a more thrilling twist, gear up your children like Indiana Jones to go on the ultimate leprechaun hunt!

How do you get your kids excited about other cultural holidays? Share your St. Patrick's Day parenting tips below!

Parenting Tips: Co-Parenting During the Holidays





Вγ

Rachel Sparks

The holidays are meant to be a time for family, friendship, and joy, but for a lot of families there's the stress of a divided household. Co-parenting can be stressful even at the best of times, but not everyone has an amicable relationship with their ex. Celebrities like Reese Witherspoon and Jennifer Lopez set high standards for what co-parenting looks like, and not all of us can reasonably achieve such a peaceful situation.

Read Cupid's parenting tips to navigate holiday stress.

While you may want to have your child(ren) on the exact day of the holiday, it's fair to assume your ex does, too. If you divide the holiday in half, then you don't get to enjoy all of your traditional celebrations without feeling rushed. So, how can you and your kids enjoy the holidays stress-free? Here's Cupid's relationship advice:

- 1. It's about the kids: Remember this as you feel frustrated with your ex's time demands. Any time with a parent is seen as magic for your kid, so don't spend that time being angry or disappointed. Remember, too, that kids can sense when you're upset, so put aside emotions when you're interacting with your ex to show the kiddos that mom and dad can get along.
- 2. Set up a routine: Children thrive off of routine, but so do co-parents with busy schedules. What's more, if a schedule has been written, it cuts down on emotional communication about the holidays. If not, then work on compromising holidays with your ex and setting up a schedule you can both respect. It will take a lot of pressure off of future conversations.

Related Link: <u>Co-Parents: See How Stars Manage to Raise Their</u>
<u>Children Post-Split</u>

- 3. Find effective communication: If seeing your ex's face makes you want to hit something, consider an alternative way of communicating. Again, remember that co-parenting is still about raising a happy and successful adult. Shouting wars will not be conducive to the lessons you teach. If even hearing their voice makes you cringe, resort to e-mail; it's impersonal and typically gives an air of professionalism.
- **4. Terminology:** Everyone knows to watch what you say about your ex in front of your kid, but also think about *how* you say

something. Instead of saying, "This is my ex," which likely brings up a painful history for your child, say, "This is my child's father/mother." It allows the child to take ownership and pride in their parents, something every child and parent wants.

Related Link: Parenting Tips: How to Cope With Stress

5. Try parallel parenting: Co-parenting requires both parents to remain pretty active in not only their child's life, but their ex's. Parallel parenting is still being involved with your kid, but keeping it hands off and at a distance with your ex. Communication is at a minimum and when the kids are at your house, it's just about you and them, not what the other parent is doing.

How have you dealt with co-parenting during the holidays? Share your advice below!

Parenting Tips: How to Deal with Empty Nest Syndrome





Вν

<u>Ashleigh Underwood</u>

When you have a child, <u>parenting</u> becomes a big part of your life. You are invested in your kids, and much of what you do is about them and for them. What happens, then, when your children grow up and no longer need your constant care? Unfortunately, for many parents, the result is empty nest syndrome, causing depression and extreme loneliness. Thankfully, <u>PsychologyToday.com</u> offers some helpful insights for dealing with these tough times.

If you're struggling with Empty Nest Syndrome, worry not. Cupid is here to help, with five parenting tips to deal with your symptoms:

1. Talk it out: In most situations, the best thing you can do is talk about how you feel. Getting your emotions out in the open allows for you to release some stress you have and to think out your problems. Opening up to your spouse or your friends can also give you a new perspective on your feelings.

Odds are they are going or have gone through the same situation.

Related Link: Parenting Tips: How To Cope With Stress

- 2. Find new hobbies: When her youngest children went off to college, celebrity mom Susan Sarandon took advantage of her free time. She jumped headfirst into her acting career and stared in a Broadway play. Whether you throw yourself into your work, like Sarandon, or take up painting, a new activity can easily distract you from your quiet home.
- **3. Keep in touch:** Just because your kids have flown the nest, doesn't mean you can never talk to them again. Stay in contact! Every once in a while, check in with your kids and see what they are up to. This will keep you feeling close and connected with them, even while they're gone.

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: How to Connect with Your Teenager</u>

- **4. Stay positive:** In hard times, it is easy to fall into a negative state. You can tell yourself every negative scenario in the book, but it will only make things worse. Instead, keep your head up and focus on the positives. Every situation is easier with a positive attitude.
- **5. Prepare beforehand:** Before your children leave, take some time to prepare. Enhance your personal and social life so that you have something to look forward to when they are away. Make new friends, start new hobbies or even begin talking about your fears in advance.

How do you deal with empty nest syndrome? Comment Below!

Parenting Tips: 5 Holiday Activities to Do With Your Child





Вν

Melissa Lee

The holiday season can mean a bunch of different things to you and your families, but to those with kids, winter break and time off from school is on most of our minds. Though the holidays are a joyous time filled with family gatherings and delicious food, boredom can quickly set in during the break. If you find yourself struggling to find activities suitable for your children, check out some of Cupid's ideas.

Head below to look over a few of Cupid's parenting tips for this holiday season!

- 1. Volunteer: The holidays are bound to be one of the most exciting times of the year, and it's mainly due to gifts and presents! Even if you and your families are fortunate enough to shower one another in gifts, try taking your kids to volunteer this year. Help out people in your community by contributing to a toy drive or a soup kitchen.
- 2. Have a holiday movie marathon: Snowy day preventing you and your kids from leaving the house? Never fear! Compile some of your favorite holiday movies, along with theirs. Sit everyone down in the living room and make a few yummy snacks, then spend the day in your pajamas and getting in the holiday spirit.

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: How to Connect With Your</u> Teenager

- 3. Create a family time capsule: After teaching your children about what a time capsule is, have them pick out a few of their favorite holiday memories and write them on pieces of paper. Add in some photos, drawings, and hand written notes, then wrap it all up in a present for next year.
- 4. Pose for holiday cards: While it may be a running tradition in some family's households, this is still a fun activity to do with you and your kids. Have everyone get dressed up (whether you want to do a serious card or a funny one is completely up to you!), and then sit down and pose for this year's card. Send them out throughout December and don't forget to save one for yourself!

Related Link: Celebrity Parents Open Up About Their Best

Parenting Advice

5. Make a gingerbread house: This idea is a classic that guarantees fun for the whole family. Either buy a gingerbread house set or bake some pieces from scratch, then have fun decorating the house the night before your favorite holiday. Even feel free to eat it after you're done decorating!

What are some of your favorite activities to do with your kids during the holiday season? Share some of your thoughts below.

Parenting Tips: Being an Adoptive Parent





The journey that comes along with parenting is never a walk in the park, but becoming or being an adoptive parent is a completely different experience. Although it is heart-warming, kind, and a beautiful adventure, there can also be a lot of heartache, stress, and emotional trauma. Similarly to having your own biological child, there is no amount of advice that can fully prepare you for the real thing. However, if you're still in the market for some suggestions, Cupid has your back.

Check out these parenting tips if you're on the road to becoming an adoptive parent!

- 1. Decide between an open or closed adoption: Assuming you've done the majority of your research and have made the final decision to become an adoptive parent, choosing between an open or closed adoption is a another huge aspect. Closed adoptions consist of a rather confidential relationship between your child and their birth parents, where they will have little to no contact. On the other hand, with open adoptions, the birth parent(s) are able to communicate with you or your adopted child, but the extent of contact is completely up to you.
- 2. Understand the finances: The money aspect of adoption is something that typically isn't talked about. Though it depends on the type of adoption you choose (domestic, international, private or independent), adopting a child can cost anywhere between \$4,000 to \$30,000. Given these hefty costs, there are ways to lessen the amount of money to pay, like low-interest loans offered by the National Adoption Foundation.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Parents Open Up About Their Best Parenting Advice</u>

3. Use a lawyer: Adoption experts suggest hiring a lawyer,

especially one that specializes in adoptions, when the process officially begins. Although this can sound scary and more legal than expect, a lawyer will ensure that there are no mistakes or loopholes when it comes down to being the adopted child's guardian. At the end of the day, you would rather be safe than sorry.

4. There can be a lot of emotional and physical damage: Experts advise to keep your expectations low regarding the adopted child. This is not meant to be crude, but rather because the child's former environment could have potentially left them in a rough state. A high percentage of adopted children were exposed to drugs or alcohol in the womb, which can have longterm effects, both physical or emotional.

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: How to Connect with Your Teenager</u>

5. Be open: Although the stigma surrounding adoption has mainly been lifted, it's highly important to be open about the topic, especially with your child. Focus on celebrating your family rather than acting like it's some sort of taboo subject, and be prepared to talk about the process as well.

What are some of your tips for adoptive parents? Leave your thoughts below.

Celebrity Parenting Tips: How To Keep Your Child Healthy

During Flu Season





By <u>Mar</u>

issa Donovan

Back in January 2013, *Supernatural* star Jared Padalecki shared that he was feeling bad for his nine-month old sick son Thomas Colton. According to *People.com*, Padalecki thought that maybe he gave his son his sickness. As a parent, it's easy pass on a sickness to your children. Keeping your children healthy and practicing good hygiene with them can decrease the risk of them catching the flu this winter season.

Here are some <u>celebrity parenting</u> <u>tips</u> on how to keep your child from catching the flu bug!

1. Get vaccinated: Kristen Bell strongly believes in

children receiving flu vaccination during those risky winter months. According to her <u>parenting</u> advice for <u>Parents.com</u>, Bell explains that even though the shot is roughly 50 percent effective, it's better than having your child be 100 percent at risk.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Parents Open Up About Their Best Parenting Advice</u>

2. Have a strict diet: Gwyneth Paltrow is a celebrity mom who wants her kids eat heathy foods. According to WomensMealthMag.com, she tries to stay away from noticeable food allergens and has her kids eating more plantbased. Eating heathy can keep your immune system on track.

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: Why Disciplining Your Kids Is Important</u>

3. Be on top of their hygiene: <u>Tia Mowry</u> keeps her son super clean to prevent catching the flu. According to her interview with <u>Parents.com</u>, she keeps her hand sanitizer handy for her son and once he gets home from school he puts on new clothes. Germs can stay attached to surfaces such as clothing, so Mowry encourages to put them into play clothes to keep them from catching the sickness and spreading it to family members.

Do you have other parenting tips in time for flu season? Leave your best advice in the comments!

Parenting Tips: See How Celebrity Moms Raise Their

Children Without Gender Stereotypes





By Mar

<u>issa Donovan</u>

Some <u>celebrity parents</u> such as Megan Fox break away from gender stereotypes and raise their children to make their own choices on what they want to wear or who they want to become. Fox has been seen letting her first son Noah wear dresses because that is what he is most comfortable in. As a parent, Fox wants her children to feel confident in the choices they make and gender stereotypes can be detrimental to a child's growth.

Check out how other celebrity moms

are breaking away from gender stereotypes!

1. Jada Pickett Smith: Celebrity kids Jaden and Willow Smith has been making headlines for their actions, but Jada Pickett Smith always stands behind her children! According to Usmagazine.com, Smith claimed to be a unconventional parent for how she allows her children to make their own choices instead of telling them what she validates as okay. Many people have been surprised by Jaden fashion choices and willow's choice to shave her head. She believes it's empowering to let her children put themselves first!

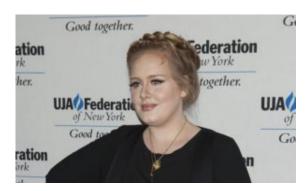


Jada Pinkett Smith and Jaden Smith. Photo: Facebook.com

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Children Who Are Just Like Their</u>
Parents

2. Adele: Powerhouse singer Adele is not only a force to be reckoned with musically, but also has a voice when it comes to breaking gender stereotypes. In an interview with Time.com, the singer expressed her excitement for the future of her son Angelo. She excited to see who he will fall in love with, who his best friends will be, and what movies he will

enjoy! So far it looks like Frozen has been one of his favorites since the celebrity child wore a Princess Elsa costume to Disneyland!



Adele. Photo: Marco Sagliocco / PRPhotos.com

Related Link: Adele Is 'Thrilled' About Becoming a Mother

3. Carrie Fisher: The legendary Carrie Fisher did not believe in enforcing gender roles on her daughter Billie Lourd. According to *Teenvogue.com*, the Scream Queens star was named Billie was one of ways Fisher showed that gender didn't matter. The celebrity mom took pride in showing her daughter that men and woman are equal and all that mattered was being a strong person!

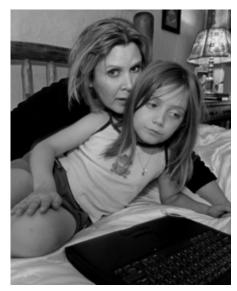


Photo:
praisethelourd/Instagr
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Related Link: <u>January Jones Opens Up About Being a Single</u>
<u>Celebrity Mom</u>

4. Bryce Dallas Howard: Jurassic World star wanted her daughter to lead the way instead of instilling gender roles in Beatrice. According to People.com, allowed her daughter to wear hand-me-downs from her brother Theodore. Her celebrity child was also bald for a long period of time and her gender did not appear prominent. Howard had no issue with what other people thought of her daughter because she was focused on letting Beatrice make her own choices.

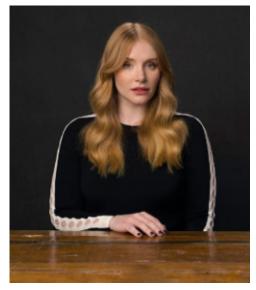


Photo: brycedhoward/Instagram

Related Link: Celebrity Mom Jillian Michaels Admits It's Hard to Balance Workouts and Motherhood

5. Jillian Michaels: Famous <u>fitness</u> trainer Jillian Michaels is okay with having her son Phoenix follow his daughter Lukensia's choices. According to <u>Huffingtonpost.com</u>, Phoenix enjoys wearing heels and playing with dolls. Michaels does not tell her son these choices are off limits because she believes it's okay to like things that are traditionally stereotyped for girls only.



Jillian Michaels with daughter Lukensia. Photo: FAMEFLYNET PICTURES

Which celebrity mother is your favorite from our list? Let us know in the comments!

Parenting Tips: 5 Unique Ways to Have Fun in the Sun with Your Child





By <u>Mar</u>

issa Donovan

<u>Neil Patrick Harris</u> and his son Gideon were spotted enjoying a gorgeous day out on the water while kayaking in Vancouver this summer. Keeping your child entertained when they're not in school can be fun for you, too! If you and your child are looking for something new, we have you covered!

Check out these <u>parenting tips</u> for five unique ideas for fun in the sun!

1. Get silly with Lawn Twister: Leave your plastic Twister mat inside and have fun on the grass! Buy red, blue, yellow, and green spray paint to create your Twister lawn design. Spray medium sized circles by copying the format as seen on the regular plastic mat. Make a spin board by using cardboard, markers, a pin, and an arrow for your DIY Twister spinner! You can also use the one that comes with the original game if you have it.



Photo:
katie.hickson/Instagram

Related Link: <u>Popular Vacation Spots That Celebrity Parents</u>
<u>Love</u>

2. Play Human Hungry Hippo: Twister's not the only childhood board game you can bring to life! This activity is great for summer play dates with other parents and children. You will need 2 to 4 laundry baskets and a mechanic creeper, depending on how many people are playing. You will also need colored plastic balls to act as your hippo pebbles. This life size adaptation is loads of fun and will keep everyone giggling for hours.



Photo:

tinylocket25/Instagram

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: 5 Beach Safety Tips Every Parent</u>
Needs to Know

3. Create Bubble Wrap Stomp Paintings: Parenting Blog Messforless.com originally came up with this cool arts and crafts project to tackle with you and your little one. Go to the post office or use bubble wrap from your recent order, and make bubble wrap boots for your child to create paintings in! You can also create adult sized boots to join in on the creative process!



Photo: demadreamadreblog/Instagram

Related Link: Parenting Tips: How To Cope With Stress

4. Swim with dolphins: If you live near a Sea World or plan on traveling this summer, find a location that offers you the ability to swim with dolphins! You and your child can have an unforgettable bonding experience with wild life! Make sure to bring a life jacket just in case your child needs it.



Photo:
jessicababyfat/Instagram

Related Link: Famous Cooks: Top 5 NYC Food Trucks for 2017

5. Make a food truck bucket list: Sit down with your child and make a list of food you both love, or search for food trucks in your state that you would like to try! Look out for food truck festivals happening near you as well. This is a fun and tasty way to get out of your house and possibly try new meals with your child!



Photo: chapter.adventures/

Instagram

Do you have other ideas for having fun with your child this summer? Share your ideas with our readers in the comments!

Parenting Tips: How to Connect with Your Teenager





By <u>Mar</u>

issa Donovan

Reese Witherspoon is not only a fabulous <u>celebrity parent</u>, but she's also a best friend to her daughter Ava Phillippe. The two have been seen on each other's Instagram accounts, as well as at the premieres for Witherspoon's recent work. Witherspoon shared with <u>Vanityfair.com</u> that they both support and talk to each other often. Having a connection with your teenager can be difficult, but acknowledging what you're both going through can be the first step to having a tight knit relationship!

Are you struggling to connect with your teenager? Here are some parenting tips on how to rebuild or make your relationship stronger!

Adjust to their mood: Mood swings and tiring days from school are bound to happen for your teen. Instead of being high-spirited in hopes to turn their mood around, try giving them space and relax your enthusiasm. They will appreciate the distance you give them instead of trying to cheer them up.

Related Link: Co-Parenting Teenagers in the Summertime

Keep responses positive: Teens pay attention to how you respond. If you respond to them negatively, they probably will probably feel uncomfortable communicating. Instead of responding with a sense of disappointment or judgement, open your statements with terms of hope and understanding.

Related Link: Parenting Tips: How To Set a Good Example For Your Child

Never take their outburst personally: Your teenager is still trying to process how to manage and process their anger. When you say no or try reaching out to them, they might lash out. At the end of the day, slamming bedroom doors or hateful remarks are not because of you. Try remembering a moment when you were upset at their age and recognize what they're going through.

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Know their friend circle: Get to know who your teen hangs out with! Allow them to invite friends over for dinner or social gatherings. You can later connect with them by asking how they met and what types of activities they like to do together. If

they have similar taste in music, you can later search for concerts you can all attend together. Bonding over your teen's friend circle can bring you closer!

Related Link: Best Celebrity Moms (Who Also Make Great Wives)

Be their biggest fan: You don't have to carry around a foam finger to know how much you support your teen. Attending their sporting events or encouraging their artistic talents is just one small way of having a relationship with your teen. They might be embarrassed by your efforts at first, but eventually they will be grateful for your love as a parent.

Do you have tips for raising a teenager? Give our reader your parenting tips in the comments!

Parenting Tips: 5 Beach Safety Tips Every Parent Needs to Know





Ву

Steve Kardian

According to the Center for Disease Control, each year about 4,000 people drown in the United States. Drowning kills more children 1-4 years of age than anything else, with the exception of birth defects. Among children ages one through fourteen, drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury or death (after motor vehicle crashes).

Being aware of the risks and learning some life saving techniques will keep you safe at the beach. Here are some parenting tips to keep in mind:

1. Your span of control is limited: In the perfect world, every child would have a designated adult supervising them at the beach or pool, but two children is a comfortable number for one adult to supervise. Any more can become overwhelming and increase the risk of something going wrong.

2. Drowning doesn't look like drowning: In the movies, when someone is acting out a drowning scene they wave their arms and scream for help. In real life, drowning is, for the most part, a silent act. Once a person goes into distress mode, they are fighting for two things: air and keeping their mouth above water. My first experience witnessing the onset of a drowning occurred at my family pool when I was about ten years My much younger cousin was in two feet of water, bent over at the waist. It looked he was looking at his feet or the bottom of the pool but something didn't seem right. When I lifted his head out of the water, he began vomiting and crying, he had been stuck. In a case I investigated, witnesses reported seeing a young girl bobbing her head up and down in She had drifted from the shallow end of the pool the water. into water above her head (or: the deep end) and was pushing off the floor of the pool to get air because she could not swim. She was saved, but nearly drowned. If something in and around the water doesn't look right, it likely isn't.

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3. Set up by a lifeguard — no lifeguard, no lifeline: Set up your stuff near a lifeguard station so that if you venture into the water with your children there is an extra set of eyes to watch over you and your child. Don't allow this to replace your diligence but rather supplement it. Your child is your first responsibility.

Related Link: Parenting Tips: How To Set a Good Example For Your Child

4. Don't get lost in conversation: Going to the beach or pool is a social event. If you're caught up in a conversation, keep your face and your eyes on your child. Mishaps and accidents can occur very quickly and with a mix of children and water, seconds matter. Keep your hands glued to your babies or toddlers at all times. If at the beach, keep an eye out for rouge waves. Chat with the lifeguard in advance about any

dangers you should know about. Ankle deep water can quickly become a hazard if you are not paying attention. Outfit your child with bright colored beach wear. Know your limitations and educate yourself on riptides. While you are on child watch duty turn the cell phone off, and keep the iPad or book out of your reach.

5. Learn CPR and rescue breathing: Your local fire, police, recreation department or gym and health club often sponsor certified CPR courses. You will not realize its value until you need it!

Steve Kardian is an American career law enforcement officer, detective, sergeant and chief criminal investigator, who specializes in crime prevention and risk reduction for women's safety. Kardian is the author of The New Superpower for Women (on pre-sale until August 8, 2017) and founder of Defend University, where he trains thousands of people each year on safety and self-defense, as well as strategies and tactics uniquely tailored to women's safety.

Celebrity Baby: George and Amal Clooney Welcome Boy & Girl Twins!





Ву

Marissa Donovan

On June 6th, <u>George Clooney</u> and wife Amal became <u>celebrity</u> <u>parents</u> to twins, Alexander and Ella! The <u>celebrity couple</u> discovered they were expecting last February and were very excited when they received the news. Sources told <u>People.com</u> that the actor suggested that he was going to be momentarily absent on the set his upcoming movie <u>Suburbicon</u>. Mr. and Mrs. Clooney will be enjoying the presence of their little boy and girl!

These <u>celebrity babies</u> were long-awaited, and the tabloids are buzzing. What are some ways to prepare for twin versus a single child?

Cupid's Advice:

Twins come with additional choices to consider when getting ready for children. Consider these <u>parenting tips</u> before your

twins arrive:

1. Buy different outfits instead of matching: It is common to see twins in matching outfits, but this is one fashion style that is often expensive. Your best option for daily outfits is to buy different clothing for your twins instead of matching. This gives them collection of choices to wear. Matching clothes are best saved for family photos and special events!

Related Link: Celebrity Maternity Style: Find Out How You Can Be Chic During Pregnancy Like Amal Clooney!

2. Select stroller that is best for you: A baby stroller for twins can come in multiple styles. The side-by-side stroller is a traditional option that has the twins sitting next to each other. A tandem double stroller will have your twins sitting front to back. A double jogger styled stroller has the similar make up of a side-by-side, but are more durable for rocky paths and exercise. Each stroller has their special features, but you need to decide which make the most sense for your lifestyle.

Related Link: Parenting Tips: How To Cope With Stress

3. Become a list person: Before your little ones come into the world, become a list person. Start writing down your goals in how you plan to organize their nursery, meals, and supplies. One you have your list of tasks, break them down into categories and each month try to tackle what seems ideal for your current schedule. Once your twins come, you'll already be prepared for their arrival and have a new list ready for parenting them!

Do you have any tips to prepare for twins? Leave your advice in the comments!

Celebrity Co-Parents: See How Stars Manage To Raise Their Children Post-Split





Βv

Marissa Donovan

Co-parenting is a lifestyle choice that many celebrities find to be a healthy way to stay close as a family. Celebrity break-ups happen, but ex couples with children have come to the mutual agreement that parenting comes first. According to the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, the long term advantages of co-parenting include less feelings of abandonment and a sense of stability. Co-parenting after a split can be done by meeting with the other parent and making

an agreement on future goals and family gatherings.

Like a <u>celebrity parent</u>, it can be hard to find balance between raising a child and working out a mutual schedule with your ex. Check out these co-parenting tips to understand how to find the happy medium of raising a family after a break-up:

1. Have positive conversation about your family members: Even when the other parent is momentarily unavailable, it is important to tell your children that they are still loved. Ben Affleck spoke highly of Jennifer Garner in an Eonline.com interview calling her an "superhero mom" and being thankful they can co-parent together. Speaking compassionately to your children about their other parent shows them that you both genuinely care about their well being.

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: How To Set a Good Example For</u>
Your Child

2. Meet as a family: Coming together as a family is something you and your ex should consider when co-parenting. Holidays may be the easiest time to share a meal or do an activity together. As seen on Keeping Up With The Kardashians, Scott Disick and Kourtney Kardashian go on vacations with their children to spend quality time together as a family. Spontaneous changes in schedules may arise, but you must move forward and plan another family day.

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: Katherine Heigl Says

"Family Comes First"

3. Understand your strengths as overall parents: It's good for your child to spend quality time alone with his or her mom or dad. Actor Ryan Philippe opened up to *ETOonline.com* about his arrangement with Reese Witherspoon to have one parent have alone time with their children. When each parent has their children separately, the pair can understand their strengths when handling a situation with their child. Mom might be better at helping with school projects, or Dad might be better at handling temper tantrums. Applying your skills as individual parents will help the development of your children.

Do you know of any other co-parenting tips? Share you experiences in the comments bellow!

Parenting Tips: Should You Circumcise Your Baby?





Ву

Noelle Downey

There's no doubt about it - parenting can be a minefield. There are so many decisions to make and questions that don't seem to have a clear right answer. While every good parent does everything they can to make sure that their child is happy, and healthy, sometimes even the experts have conflicting parenting tips on the best ways to accomplish that goal. One of the most hot-button topics when it comes to parenting advice is circumcision. While some experts argue that circumcision has health benefits like decreased risk of urinary tract infections, penile cancer or STI's, others contend that the reduction of the risk is actually so small that it doesn't warrant a corrective procedure, especially for infants who have no say in what some consider to be an invasive surgery. Differing cultural and religious views also tend to influence parents when it comes to whether or not they have their children circumcised. Although choose to medical procedure many take circumcision is a granted, even some <u>celebrity parents</u> argue against it. Cupid is here with a list of the top five most vocal celebrity protestors of circumcision.

Whether or not you believe circumcision is right for your children, there are plenty of famous parents who say their top parenting tip for their celebrity babies is to avoid the cut altogether!

- 1. Alicia Silverstone: Alicia Silverstone is a celebrity mom to six-year-old son Bear Blu Jarecki, and she and her husband, Christopher Jarecki, made the personal decision not to circumcise Bear despite the fact that Silverstone had a Jewish upbringing. Silverstone confronted the complicated decision she and her husband made in her book, 'The Kind Mama' and later said that her fans reactions to it touched her deeply. "One [fan] said that 17 years ago she had her son, and she made this choice," Silverstone shared in a celebrity interview with *The Stir*, "and she was crying, because she was remembering her experience. It was moving to me."
- 2. Ben Affleck: Ben Affleck, celebrity ex of Jennifer Garner and dad to children Violet, Seraphina, and Samuel, has said in the past that despite some reports from experts that state that being uncircumcised can lead to an increased risk of frequent urinary tract infections, he himself doesn't approve of the practice. He once confessed to Jon Stewart in an interview, "I hate circumcisions! Get enough in me, and I'll tell you how much I hate them!"

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Divorce</u>: <u>Ben Affleck Still Living at Family Home with Jennifer Garner</u>

3. Russell Crowe: Famed actor and father to two sons, Charles and Tennyson, Russell Crowe took to Twitter to slam

circumcision in a series of controversial tweets. The actor steamed, "Circumcision is barbaric and stupid. Who are you to correct nature? Babies are perfect." While many responded negatively to his tweets, citing a lack of sensitivity to the nuanced reasons that many choose to circumcise their children, others firmly supported his declarations, sparking a dramatic social media storm.

4. Mario Lopez: On a 2010 episode of this cute star's hit reality TV show, 'Saved By the Baby', Mario Lopez pushed his then-girlfriend (now wife) Courtney Mazza to consider not circumcising their future son, and the discussion quickly got heated for the celebrity couple. "That's not up for discussion," Lopez insisted firmly, "News flash, this is the way all men are born." Lopez and Mazza are now celebrity parents to two children, Gia Francesca Lopez and Dominic Lopez.

Related Link: Mario and Courtney Lopez Welcome a Baby Boy

5. Cameron Diaz: It's not just celebrity parents who have their opinions on circumcision. Forty-four year old actress Cameron Diaz has made it clear in the past that if she and her husband Benji Madden ever have a son, that circumcision will not be for them. She spoke in an interview with *The Stir* about her film 'What to Expect When You're Expecting' and some changes that had to be made to the script to achieve a PG-13 rating, claiming, "they made us cut out a bunch about circumcision. To get a PG-13 rating we had to cut out the actual *description* of circumcision. So apparently it is very uncomfortable for people to hear how it works." Diaz added, "America is the same way about their beef — they just want it delivered in a styrofoam package with saran wrap over it. They don't want to know how it got to you. Same thing with circumcision."

What do you think about the practice of circumcision? Do the alleged health benefits or personal concerns outweigh these

celebrity opinions? Or do you think they have a point? Let us know in the comments!