

Everyday Parenting Troubles

There are so many books and videos that address the problems of parenting. Every parent eventually has the question, "Is my child's behavior normal?"

Every parent of young children should purchase a book that outlines developmental milestones such as when the child will walk or talk, so they know what to expect.

But, there are many childhood "problems" that are "normal." Just as adults have problems in our everyday lives, children have problems such as:

- Bullies at school - If your child doesn't want to go to school, maybe they are having a problem with a bully. Ask your child what is going on at school.
- Academic problems at school - Few children are good at all of their studies. Be aware. Ask your child about school. Ask them about their homework.
- Trouble with teachers - Realize this is just one year of your child's life. Keep the lines of communication open between yourself and your child's teacher.
- Peer Pressure - Especially during the pre-teen and teenage years, children feel peer pressure to become involved in activities that are counter to their family values. Again, be aware. Again, visit with your children.
- Rebellion - It is natural for children to rebel against parental control as they get older. Parents need to revisit boundaries as their children become teenagers if they behave in a responsible manner.

Being a parent is the hardest job that you will ever have in your whole life! It is 24 hours a day - 7 days a week - FOREVER! Parents should set boundaries and instill responsibilities and family values in their children. There will be bumps in the road.

Keep the lines of communication open between you and your children. Many problems can be solved by talking them out.