

WEBSITE RESOURCES:

Great websites for parents and a description of what you'll find on the site

An excellent place to start researching topics on the web is called the Child & Family Webguide. This site reviews and rates websites using a "star" system that easily allows you to tell what the reviewers thought of certain websites. This site provides links to other sites and gives overviews of the sites along with the ratings that the sites received. www.cfw.tufts.edu

ERIC / EECES National Parenting Information Network has a website that has good links, too. It is another good place to start when researching things on the web. It also offers a chat room for parents. www.npin.org

Parents Magazine offers an interesting and informative site. It has a lot of advertising around the edges but some of those offer nice tidbits of information as well. It has some topics including advice on children by age, family time, and community. I found an article about whether or not children are ready for kindergarten and another on ways to raise happy children. www.parents.com

The Learning Network's "Parent Channel" offers another neat place to start on the web. This site has information and links to newsletters about specific topics and activities for children. There is both age and grade level specific information for parents of young children. www.familyeducation.com

Reading books to children about different topics is a great way to help children process their emotions. We do this a lot in counseling because it helps children realize that they are not alone as they deal with certain issues or problems. The following website lists books that are suitable for young children (lower elementary grades). The topics range from things like adoption, death, conflict resolution, and other contemporary issues like violence in our society. This is a great all-around resource! <http://clpgh.org/clp/libctr/famctr/bibliotherapy>

The American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry has a neat website with lots of fact sheets for families. This website has different pages for topics that parents may want to explore. For instance, a trip to this website can answer questions like the following:

"Why can't my child pay attention?"

"My child has been lying lately, is that normal?"

"My husband has been diagnosed with depression. How will our children be affected?"

If you have a question about a particular topic, this website is a good place to start. www.aacap.org

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has good resources for parents on keeping children safe. They also have tips to share with children about keeping themselves safe. www.missingkids.org

A comprehensive website with tons of topics that vary greatly (TV viewing, divorce, birth order, depression, grandparents, and more) is: www.drspock.com

This website is quoted as being the "most comprehensive special education advocacy site of the internet." Pamela Darr Wright, LCSW (Licensed Clinical Social Worker) put this site together. It has different topics relating to children who might have attention problems or who might need special education services but also has an overview of child development.

www.wrightslaw.com/advoc/articles/ADD_in_Children_Developmental_Issues.html

A resource for families with topics such as parenting, divorce, and childcare is: <http://missourifamilies.org>

A website related to the Safety First baby products has information on developmental stages and other important information on safety recalls. www.ibabydoc.com/online/developmental.asp

One website clearly states and explains the developmental stages of childhood as researched by Jean Piaget. These stages are very interesting to learn about and consider in relation to where your child is functioning. Sometimes we don't realize that there are some issues that very young children just cannot grasp. If you are not familiar with Piaget's work, I highly recommend you glance at this site. <http://coe.sdsu.edu/eet/Articles/piaget>

This website offers examples of after school programs that correlate with your child's developmental needs. www.siu.edu/~aftersch/dev_nds.htm

This website from the Child Development Institute had good information but was also selling things – be careful. It discussed developmental stages and play schemes. www.childdevelopmentinfo.com/development/piaget.shtml

A website that provides information about divorce and how it affects children who are in different stages of development is: <http://muextension.missouri.edu/xplor/hesguide/humanrel/gh6600.htm>

This one discusses what a school counselor does and ways that school counselors can help parents. It also has links to various topics related to parents and parenting. www.schoolcounselor.org

For parents of gifted students, here's a good site for you to visit: <http://www.sengifted.org>

Good luck on the web and please let me know if there are any websites that you have found helpful or any that are not informative. Thanks!

Resources found on 12/17/2007 - <http://hcps.us/guidance/whes/parentelem.htm>