



Welcome to the family

Parent Today coaches and encourages parents through four chapters of their children's education – early learners, elementary, middle years and high school. Each bimonthly e-newsletter will feature stories relevant to corresponding academic and developmental stages of children. **Parent Today** will also respond to current issues and provide information on the ever-changing education landscape.

Early learners: The stories in this chapter will highlight areas in which parents can instill basic concepts and teach beginning problem solving, with a focus on activities that encourage skills development, knowledge, and ways of thinking and learning. **Parent Today** will also offer ideas for parents to encourage age-appropriate social development and work toward their children's school readiness.

Sample stories: *Cutting down on tube time*
 Encourage a love of reading
 Simple math: Learning numbers (and more!) at the market

Elementary school: During the elementary years, children are acquiring tools and skills that will aid them later in life. **Parent Today** looks at how parents can encourage better communication skills, decipher learning styles, instill study skills and address stress management. Stories will also address issues kids face in school – both social and academic – and help parents continue to foster a love of learning.

Sample stories: *What your child's teacher should know*
 Put your child on a "TV diet"
 The age of bullying: A parents' guide to empowering a child

Middle years: Tweens and early teens face a whole new set of challenges in middle school. As they move toward increased independence, they still need their parents' guidance and boundaries. **Parent Today** offers insight on helping children make the transition to middle school, dealing with sticky situations and understanding a child's emotional development. By encouraging their children to try new endeavors and encouraging a positive attitude toward education, parents can help ease the trip through middle school.

Sample stories: *An end to parachute parenting: Teaching responsibility to middle schoolers*
 Goal setting: Start small, think big
 Get to the bottom of school avoidance issues

High school: As students prepare for life beyond high school, they need to build skills to help them become self-sufficient. **Parent Today** stories will focus on areas in which parents can encourage responsibility and decision making, instill values and foster independence. We'll also offer tips on how parents can – and why they should – stay involved as their children move through the teen years.

Sample stories: *Teens and sleep: A winning combination*
 Character doesn't take a vacation
 Life skills: 5 essentials your child must have before they graduate from high school