

HOT TOPICS

What are we concerned about?

Several agencies conducted a survey in 2010 of parents, middle school students and high school students regarding concerns about school. It was interesting to see how the three groups compared. The adults list school violence low whereas students list violence of varying forms as a major concern.

A 2003 RoperASW survey of youth showed 43% were concerned with homework. Ages 8-9, 51% were concerned kids trying to get them to do things they shouldn't. But one area still remains; peer pressure and bullying from 2003 to 2010.

Sometimes these concerns can turn into fear. Fear will stop you in your tracks at any age from toddler to adult. According to *Erupting Mind Education*, we are born with two fears; falling and loud noises, the rest are learned. Now we have to look at these concerns before they become fears. Each group below has their own unique set. Remember they are valid concerns and equally important.

Kids have you discussed your fears/concerns with your parent? Parents have you discussed your fear/concerns with your students? Teachers have you had an open discussion? Has anyone opened up a dialogue? Don't you think this is important and about time?

Parents	Middle School	High School
Smoking	Bullying (Threats)	Teen Violence
Drugs	School Violence	School Shootings
Obesity	Rumors	Cyberbullying
Alcohol	Alcohol	Internet Addiction
Driving		Bullying
Pregnancy		TV Violence
Internet Safety		Teen Suicide
School Violence		



What do you plant to get a seedless watermelon?



It is that time of year and we are back! A new column area for Hot Topics is Safety. This could range from cyber safety to personal safety. Yes, tips and information that benefits all age groups.

Fun School Facts

- In 1995 only 50% of the schools had internet access. Today it is 100% with 14.2 million computers in classrooms.
- Elementary school was for the wealthy until 1840s. Thanks to Horace Mann of Massachusetts and Henry Barnard of Connecticut to push for universal education.
- Oldest school in U.S.A., Boston's Latin School founded April 23, 1635. Five of the 56 Declaration of Independence signers were graduates, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, Robert Treat Paine, Samuel Adams and William Hopper.
- Until 1930 you were required to only go through the 8th grade.
- Of the ten largest high school gyms in American, nine are in Indiana.
- United States spends an average of \$7.4 billion on school clothes to start the year.



THE FIRST LATIN SCHOOL, ON NORTH SIDE OF SCHOOL STREET, 1635.

And this has nothing with school but it is interesting.

- The State of Tennessee was the State of Franklin. Formed in 1796, it was the 16th state. http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/places/state_of_franklin



Forget swimming or riding a bike Young children today are more likely to master computer games and phone apps.

AVG survey results in 2010

FBI's new "CHILD ID" iPhone App

A simple iPhone app that can store information about your children and send it to authorities in the unlikely event they go missing. Parents fill out information about their child in the app and use it to take a photo. Data is stored in

your phone and not sent to the FBI or anyone less unless there is an emergency. See the app in action at the FBI website.

http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2011/august/child_080511

Google+. Be careful who joins you

It is the new social networking site that will compete with Facebook. You can create a Circle of Friends and see when they are "hanging out". Be careful if you want to "hang" as if you are on the phone and have the Google+ app, conversations can be heard. People can add you to their circle without your knowledge also. You never know who is watching you. Does this sound safe?

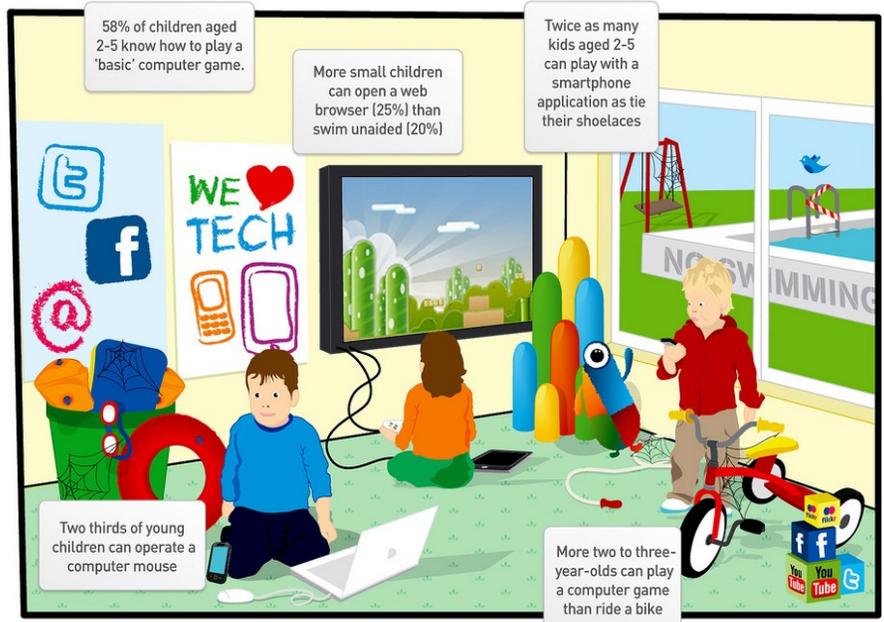
Family contract for Online Safety Kids' Pledge

http://www.safekids.com/contract_kid.htm

Parents' Pledge

http://www.safekids.com/contract_parent.htm

[Parents guide to Facebook. Hands-on tools for teens privacy and safety \(PDF\).](#) Safekids.com November 2010.



Internet security company AVG Technologies spoke with 2,200 mothers from U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the EUS (U.K., France, Italy, German, Spain) and Japan.

Small children are more familiar with computers and smart phones than swimming or riding a bike.

- 58% of age 2-5 could play a basic computer game
- 44% of age 2-3 had the computer game ability
- 43% could ride a bike
- 25% can open a web browser but only 20% could swim
- It was equal between boys and girls
- Average mother was 35 years of age
- 25% of U.S.A. children age 2-5 could make a mobile phone call compared to the highest 44% in Italy.
- 61% of U.S.A. children age 2-5 can play a computer game compared to the highest 70% U.K.

What are they going to be able to do at age 7? Parents be prepared!



Are you packing school and work lunches that are safe? That meat sandwich was made 5 to 6 hours ago. Not cooled could cause for a upset tummy.

Journal of Pediatrics looked at 705 lunches that sat in a school gym for one and one half hours. Over 97% of the meats, 95% of the vegetables, and 99% of the dairy were not safe. Foods sat too long at room temperature. Even with lunches with ice packs (39%) was not cool enough.



What is lurking in those sack lunches?

