

# SECOND & THIRD

THE PHASE  
WHEN →

AND YOUR  
ENTHUSIASTIC KID



THINKS ANYTHING

FAIRNESS  
MATTERS MOST,

← DIFFERENCES GET NOTICED,

"SOUNDS LIKE FUN!"







## **ENFORCE THE LAW IN EVERY SITUATION.**

Rules are rules. Gifts should be distributed equally. Consequences should be consistent. Your child has now become a combination of CSI, Law & Order, Nancy Drew, and Barney Fife. If you deviate from the guidelines of fairness and do something like give one kid a treat and not another, you will find yourself called out for unfairness.

## **LIFE SHOULD BE FAIR, IT'S OKAY THAT PEOPLE ARE DIFFERENT.**

Kids begin to notice (some for the first time) that “not everyone is like me.” Until now, everyone was on equal footing. Now, they see that some kids are more athletic, some are better artists, some kids are blond and some kids are brown-skinned. Expect a new set of adjectives as they try to describe their world to you.

## **BEAUTIFUL BLEND OF CAPABLE AND DEPENDENT.**

Kids are not especially needy. But they are still kids! They are impressionable, enthusiastic, eager, and excited about what you're excited about. You still set the schedule, and if it sounds like fun to you, you can convince them that it is really fun!

IT'S JUST A  
**PHASE**

**SO DON'T  
MISS IT**



# YOUR ROLE IS TO **ENGAGE** THEIR INTERESTS

A child develops skills and competencies that equip their future. The way a child resolves the “Do I have” questions of these phases provides them with critical knowledge and resources. It shapes their perception of personal ability, comparative value, and resilience. Through these phases, kids shift from wanting to be seen by adults to wanting to be seen by adults and peers. The best way to resolve a kid’s relational questions is to engage their interests.

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**THINKS LIKE  
A SCIENTIST**

You help them learn when you...  
**GIVE CONCRETE EXAMPLES.**

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**WANTS TO KNOW,  
“DO I HAVE YOUR  
ATTENTION?”**

When you demonstrate interest  
in a kid’s progress, kids...  
**IMPROVE THEIR ABILITIES.**

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**DO I HAVE WHAT  
IT TAKES?**

A kid wants to know how their abilities  
compare with their peers. When you praise  
a kid’s persistence and efforts, kids...  
**BROADEN COMPETENCE.**

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YOU CAN HELP YOUR KID GROW IN WISDOM, FAITH,  
AND FRIENDSHIP.

When you **ENGAGE** your child's interests, you help them...

**TRUST GOD'S CHARACTER.  
EXPERIENCE GOD'S FAMILY.**

Practically speaking, that means every week  
you have an opportunity to...

**CONNECT WITH A FAITH COMMUNITY.  
PRAY TOGETHER.**

**READ BIBLE STORIES AND ANSWER FAITH QUESTIONS.  
REPEAT BASIC TRUTHS LIKE:**

"I can  
trust God  
no matter  
what."

"I need to  
make the  
wise  
choice."

"I should  
treat others  
the way I  
want to be  
treated."

You can do these things by taking advantage of the time you  
already spend together.

**MORNING  
TIME**

BE A COACH.

You instill purpose  
when you start  
the day with  
encouraging words.

**DRIVE  
TIME**

BE A FRIEND.

You interpret life  
during informal  
conversation as  
you travel.

**MEAL  
TIME**

BE A TEACHER.

You establish values  
with intentional  
conversation while  
you eat together.

**BED  
TIME**

BE A  
COUNSELOR.

You strengthen  
your relationship  
through heart  
conversations at the  
end of the day.



## YOUR KID IS CHANGING...

### PHYSICALLY

- » Loses incisor teeth (6-8 years)
- » Draws a person with a body
- » Needs 10-12 hours of sleep each night

### MENTALLY

- » Can focus on one activity for 5-15 minutes
- » Beginning to understand ironic humor and tell simple jokes
- » Knows the difference between need vs. want and real vs. pretend
- » Doesn't logically interpret cause and effect

### RELATIONALLY

- » Wants to please and help others
- » Has a hard time asking for help
- » Needs guidance taking turns and losing well

### EMOTIONALLY

- » May display extreme emotions
- » Tends to be optimistic
- » Needs to experience moderate challenges and success
- » Highly sensitive to harsh criticism, tone, and body language

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# PHASE:

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## A TIMEFRAME

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IN A KID'S LIFE WHEN YOU CAN

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# LEVERAGE

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DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO INFLUENCE

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THEIR FUTURE

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YOU HAVE 572 WEEKS AND COUNTING...

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IT'S JUST A  
PHASE  
SO DON'T MISS IT



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