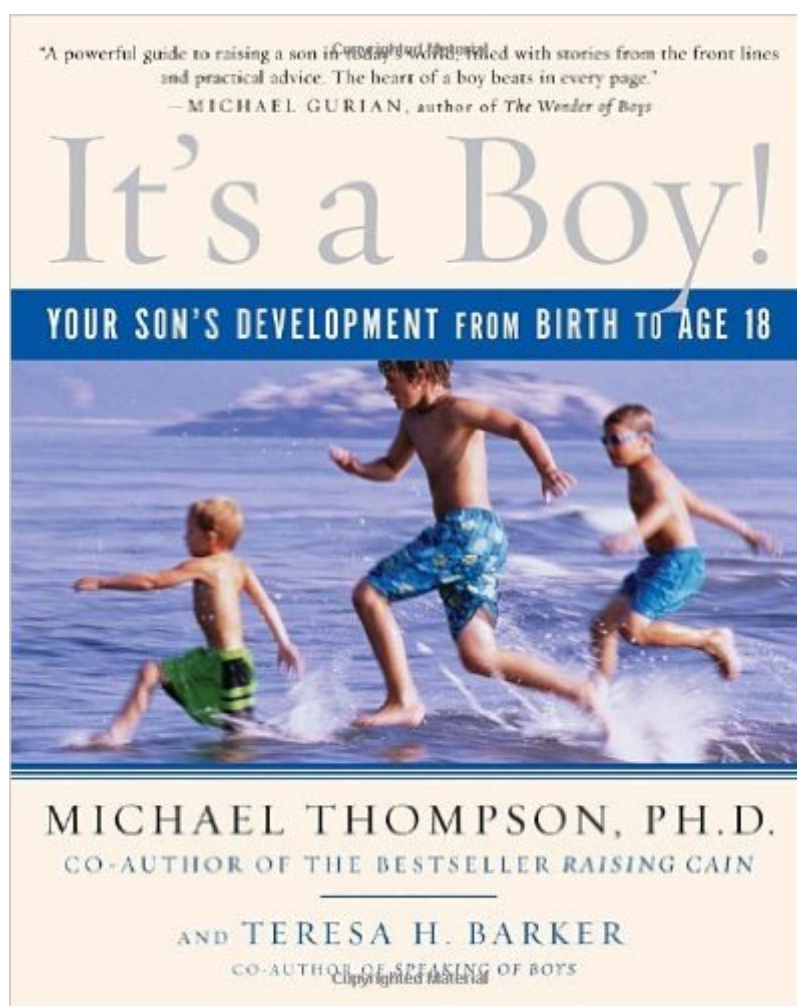


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# It's A Boy!: Your Son's Development From Birth To Age 18



## Synopsis

It's a Boy! provides expert advice on the developmental, psychological, social, emotional, and academic life of boys from infancy through the teen years. Exploring the many ways in which boys strive for masculinity and attempt to define themselves, psychologist Michael Thompson, Ph.D., a leading international expert on boys' development, and journalist Teresa H. Barker identify the key developmental transitions that mark a boy's psychological growth and emotional health, and the challenges both boys and parents face at each age.

- Baby Boys (birth to 18 months): falling in love with your son, healthy attachment, trust, and temperament
- Toddler Years (18 months to 3 years): boys on the go, bold steps, blankies, budding language, and rambunctious physicality
- Powerful Little Boys (ages 3 and 4): superhero ambitions, learning to manage the force of his anger, and celebrating the power of the boy group
- Starting School (ages 5 through 7): developmental cues for school readiness, transitional challenges, tough talk, tender hearts, and first friends
- Boys on a Mission (ages 8 through 10): striving for mastery in sports, organizing the boy brain for school success, and glaring academic gender gaps
- The Preteen (ages 11 through 13): puberty, posturing, and popularity, the culture of cruelty, and stoic silence in the middle school years
- Early High School (ages 14 and 15): powerful peer groups, sexuality, the shift away from Mom, and yearning for Dad's respect and attention
- On the Brink of Manhood (ages 16 through 18): the quest for independence, sex, love, driving, drinking, and other challenges of life

Practical, insightful, and engaging, It's a Boy! is the definitive guide to raising boys in today's world, revealing with humor, compassion, and joy all the infinite varieties of boys and the profound ways in which we love them.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"It's a Boy: Understanding Your Son's Development From Birth to Age 18" by Michael Thompson, Ph.D. is one of the best parenting books I've seen as far as being dedicated to understanding what is going on in a boy's brain. As a mother of two boys, I admit that sometimes I am completely befuddled by their behavior. I have (obviously) never been a little boy and because of that, I can't necessarily relate to what they are going through. Dr. Thompson describes what is going on in their heads and also helps parents to realize that their son's behavior is normal and what it should be. Dr. Thompson also does a great job of describing why so many boys have so much trouble in school and offers some solutions as to what can be done to fix it. I wish I could photocopy whole chapters of this book to distribute to my sons' teachers. Teachers, most of whom are women, especially if they have never had any sons of their own, often just don't get little boy behavior. This book would help so much in their understanding.

I felt that the book was geared for parents with only "stereo-typical" boys, which I do not have. If your son is a typical high energy boy, then this is the book for you. If your son is more sensitive and laid back, there is not much in this book to answer your questions or validate your parenting tactics.

I have to start by saying that I found this book on when I was searching for some understanding of my 7 and 10 year old sons - who are very different, and yet I still don't always "get them". As a mom who never had a brother - I've often been a bit aloof with understanding "is this normal" when it came to my son. So - not willing to spend the money on an unknown - I first went to the library and checked out this book. After one week of on-and-off reading, I was sold and purchased my very own copy of this book. Not only does this book help understand "what is normal" for boys regarding physical, emotional, social and educational development - it also helps every mom who didn't grow up with boys understand that boys aren't anything like girls! Maybe that was a personal thing I had to realize on my own, but this book helped me understand how wonderfully different they really are. Rather than wondering why my son isn't chatty or the friend-seeker that I thought he should be because of his age, I now understand that he is a well-adjusted boy. That has brought a great peace to my mind. Also, it easy highlights where the "red-flags" should be in all forms of development while also giving suggestions for the proper response. As an added bonus, I should

also mention that this book has helped me understand my husband a bit better, too! One last thing - I'm not an avid reader, so taking on a book this big seemed really daunting. However, the book is formatted in a way that makes it an easy read due to the age separation, the breakout sections that highlight the different types of development, and the relate-able stories and lessons learned from them. You don't need to read it all at once, rather hang on to it and consult with it over the years. I will now buy this book for friends of mine who are expecting boys. The "what to expect" books are great for the first year and a half of life, but for boys, this is the must have for the remaining 17 years.

I really needed some insight into how little boys' minds work. I have an almost 2 year old son and many of his behaviors I'm not used to since I wasn't around boys much growing up. This book is very helpful in that it focuses on what boys need and want, how and why they behave so much differently than girls, and how to better help them deal with different challenges and issues they may have as they grow up. It's very insightful and has helped me to understand my toddler so much better and my husband also. I'm almost halfway through this book and already I love it and plan on using it as a guide for many years. I like that it is broken into different age groups and that there are other parents' stories and comments throughout the book that I can relate to now and in the future. I feel that this book is a must have for parents, teachers, caretakers, and anyone who works with boys.

This book seems breezy and OK, nothing new or unique. The many references to god and religion was odd since there was nothing mentioning this bent anywhere on the jacket. I'm not raising my son to be superstitious so this was sort of off-putting.

FANTASTIC book. Seriously. If you have a son, or know any boys at all, read this book. It is enormously enlightening, --and I thought I knew boys very, very well before reading this! Dr. Thompson is the Voice of Reason for any of us trying to raise boys. He is incredibly knowledgeable, yet modest, and witty, and organized. That is exactly what comes through in the book. This book covers just about any situation you can find yourself in, when dealing with a boy. Read it!! GREAT advice, comfort, encouragement, and company!

The format of this book kept me from getting into it. The information is good, but in brief pieces. I couldn't really sink my teeth into it before it switched to an anecdote or a different age. If you want a

brief overview with lots of stories from parents, you should like this. If you are looking for detailed information about a particular age of boy, I would look elsewhere. Good for what it is, but not a style for everyone.

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