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Your Eight Year Old: Lively And Outgoing

From defiance to school problems to social behavior—everything you need to know about...

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GESSELL INSTITUTE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

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The eight-year-old child is an exuberant, outgoing bundle of energy; he meets every challenge head-on, willing to try almost anything. Sometimes parents are amazed at the enthusiasm and excitement with which their child greets the world. However, eight is also a time when the child begins to do a great deal of analyzing and evaluating, finding fault in himself and others—especially mother. How do parents help an eight-year-old through this up-and-down age? What should parents expect in their relationships with the child and how can life in the family be made easier? What will the child’s relationship with friends and siblings be like? In the successful tradition of the Gesell institute series, Your Eight-Year-Old is a well-researched, highly accessible guide.
series are little paperbacks, quick to read. Our society has changed since they were written, so a bit of the book may seem dated if you don’t like ‘traditional roles. However, there is much good information and wisdom in here, unencumbered by the modern day concerns about ADD and such. In expensive, a good investment to ease a parent’s mind. A nice gift from grandparents to their own children, and for young parents, just nice to have on the shelf for those days when we forget that kids behaviors and interests change as they grow up.

Look for the updated copy by typing out 8 - Your Eight Year Old - by Louise Bates Ames, Printed 1990. I love this series and almost didn’t find it in here.

I am buying this book because I already own "Your two year old" through "Your six year old" written by the same author. The books I have read by this author are succinct and written in a conversational tone. The insight that I’ve gained into the developmental/behavioral stages of a child in this series have been great.

I love these books. Some of the references are a little outdated (to be expected.. they were written some time ago) They don’t offer parenting advice as much as they talk about normal occurrences for each age.

Author Ames has done many years of observation of children professionally. In this book, she helps parents of 8 year olds understand the child and guides them through good and bad times, times that are fascinating and proud, as well as trying and frustrating. Any parent with an 8 year old will gain a lot through these pages. The author addresses the child’s school life, social life, interests, abilities, tension outlets, the eight-year-old birthday party and other important issues. She also brings to the parents’ attention the fact that it is an up-and -down age, the child tends to be analytical and evaluative. With her professional and psychological instincts, Ames brings to attention some issues parents may not notice, such as the child’s new enthusiasm, curiosity, and expanding spatial world. It is interesting that the author points out the differences between a 7 year old versus an 8 year old, which parents may not have noticed well. There is a list of books for an eight year old, and a list of books for parents of an eight year old. These books and networking with other parents can provide an informal support system for parents. Intuitive author!

These books will track a child’s progress remarkably accurately. Whenever we find ourselves totally
frustrated we invariably read that age book and learn a ton. Our kids lives have been deeply enriched by having us understand what they are up to. Its uncanny how right on this series is. Our boy just turned 8 and over the last few months has really started to change, not always for the best (it felt). That’s why we stopped procrastinating and bought the 8-year-old edition. Now we get it. We understand the pitfalls we are up against at this unique age and have been able to shift our parenting roles so that we can best deal with him and get him the outcomes he needs. We’ve been using the books for both our children since birth essentially and can not recommend them enough. Really, if you are a parent, get these books. They are life changing.

It seems that in the past 20 years our kids environments have changed a bit but their development is similar. I wish I had found these books sooner. It was so comforting to hear that our daughter’s nightmares are a stage that many 7 year olds go through and that 8 is the year of confidence and exploration. Looking forward to leaving the insecurity and “it’s not fair” age of 7 to the wondrously independent age of 8! I have also purchased age 5 to remind me what to expect for my younger son and will also get age 6. Love them!

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