MIXED SIGNALS

We are only providing this information as a tool for the safety and welfare of our children. The data from which this article was generated is readily available through our libraries and organizational sources.

Few things require more hands-on attention than a young child. And there’s little that’s more distracting than the constant bleeping of our cells phones. When these two things compete for our attention, the results can be sobering.

There might be a similar critical time during which babies need to have a mom and dad’s reliable and consistent attention in order to form proper emotional processes. That includes knowing that at a certain time every day, for example, food will come, or that when a toy appears, mom will play. If mom is distracted by a call or a message alert, and turns to the cell phone instead, then this pattern gets broken and the crucial learning that should occur might not happen. Other studies have shown that such poor development of the pleasure system could contribute to mood disorders such as depression and anxiety.

Children will tend to emulate what we do as parents and adults. The number of studies performed and being performed all seem to point to a negative effect that so called “blessing and curse” of communication technology holds regarding parenting.

Will this implied break in our communication skill with our children roll over and forward to their children?
Bottom line is that the cell phone with the current and future advances in communication technology is not going to go away anytime soon.

The balancing act. Is there a happy medium regarding parenting and use of communication technology? Happy… perhaps not but all signs point to the need for us as parents to make a better attempt at balancing the use of communication technology and communication with our children and others around us.

There are certainly things we can all do to better ensure we provide our children the right attention at the right times and still remain in contact with those we must through our phones.

It’s an etiquette thing. When you come to pick up your child and they are jockeying for your attention to show you the artwork or papers they made that day, make sure you reach for and show them how important they are.

When you sit down for a meal together, banish the phone while you eat and communicate with your kids.

Far too often, we are spending more time with our phones when we should be interacting with our children and those around us.

Some people in fact have needs to check their phones for work or scheduling but more often than not most of us can put the little plastic thing away during those times that we should be demonstrating our love and care.

Start to make a concerted effort to interact with your children and family before getting on the phone or online for something.

Bottom line. Spend the times we should with our children, when they need it most.

Hey…… remember when we didn’t have cell phones? We still managed to survive. We’ll survive again, just differently.

**OBSERVANCES**

**Month-Long Observances**
- Women’s History Month
- Deaf History Month
- National Craft Month
- Optimism Month
- Honor Society Awareness Month
- National Foreign Language Month
- Irish American Heritage Month
- National Ethics Month
Continual Vital Notes:
A few vital notes include: If you are covered through ELC, you must sign in and out everyday…. With your full name. The times entered “Can Not” be the same every day and must be written in “Black” ink.

Students must at the school by 9:15 SHARP.

Immunization and Shot Health Certificates must be up to date.

Please provide a change of clothes for your child (weather appropriate).

Meals: We DO NOT serve breakfast. Please assure your child is properly nourished. Any special needs should be addressed through our office.

Daily “Grams” are provided to up-date you on your child’s daily activities. These also serve as reminders for parents and students.

Parking: Parent parking and child drop off and pick up must be made in our East parking area.

Library Books and materials should be returned each week to help assure other children are afforded access.

Fiscal Responsibilities: Please make sure you keep up with weekly tuition payments so as not to disrupt child care services.

RESOURCES: There are numerous resources and assistance services and programs available to our communities.

Pasco Kids First (Child Advocacy) http://www.pasokidsfirst.org/

Early Learning Coalition of Pasco & Hernando Counties: http://www.phelc.org/

Florida Office of Early Learning http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/

Florida Association for the Education of Young Children http://www.flaeye.org/

Help Me Grow Florida https://www.helpmegrowfl.org/service-providers/resources/


The Family Conservancy http://www.thefamilyconservancy.org/parenting-resources-information

The Sea of Learning has just updated its website and Facebook page. We have a considerable amount of reference and resource information that has been made available to you. We will be building upon these resources over time.

If you should ever find a broken link to a webpage or an omission, please don’t hesitate to contact the office.

Sea of Learning: http://www.seaoflearningpreschool.com/
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NOTE: If you need child care during periods where the public schools are closed or there is no VPK, PLEASE sign up for those days in the office.