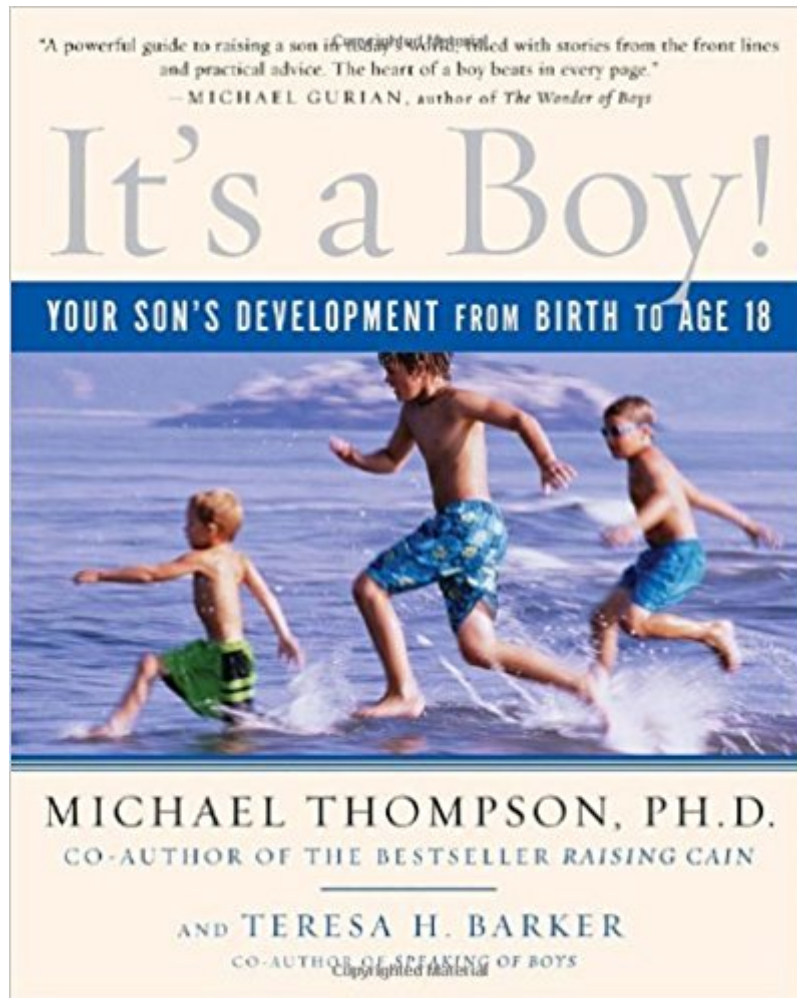




The book was found

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.

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Customer Reviews

Addressing recent troubling studies about boys in the U.S. authors Thompson and Barker (*Raising Cain; Speaking of Boys*) underscore the developmental differences between girls and boys that often compel boys to underachieve in school and embrace destructive behavior. The authors aim to rectify a sense of parental loss of trust in boys' development by advocating early unconditional love, strong maternal attachment, restraint of corporal punishment and sexist stereotyping, strong father participation and safe places where boys can engage in undirected, outside play. The trend toward earlier academic performance in school does not suit boys' development, as they tend to learn language and reading slower than girls, hear less well and fidget. Educators and psychologists share their opinions, all in the spirit of embracing boys' unique energy and intellect. Ages 11 to 13 bring startling changes, which the authors examine under the five tasks of adolescence, while ages 14 to 15 invite a mysterious inner life, and ages 16 to 18 present challenges regarding independence, sexuality and responsibility. In this upbeat guide, Thompson especially relies on his good-sense experience as a father and educator to remind parents not to criticize behavior that is typical for boys. (Mar.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"It's a Boy! is a powerful guide to raising a son in today's world. Filled with stories from the front lines and practical advice, it is gentle and compassionate, yet also moving and beautiful. The heart of a boy beats in every page." —Michael Gurian, author of *The Wonder of Boys*
"I'm keeping *It's a Boy!* beside my bed until my sons go to college! I love how the book celebrates boys but still holds them responsible for their actions." —Rosalind Wiseman, author of *Queen Bees and Wannabes*
"Michael Thompson has gradually earned his place as the Warren Buffett of child rearing, the real deal. His track record of uncanny timing, his hard-won knowledge, common sense, and humanism have resonated with parents everywhere. Now there is a desperate need to understand our boys more deeply; there is a palpable hunger to learn how to handle our sons better. *It's a Boy!* does both in a way not seen before. *It's a Boy!* will help your son to feel more loved, understood, and effectively guided by you forever." —Ron Taffel, Ph.D., author of *Parenting by Heart*

How to Stay Connected to Your Child in a Disconnected World—A “Spectacular . . .

extraordinary insight, enriched by countless poignant and telling stories of boys and their parents and teachers. It—*It’s a Boy!* is an immensely helpful navigational chart for steering through the shoals of a boy’s developmental stages. —Patrick F. Bassett, president, National Association of Independent Schools—“Wise, sensible, accessible, useful—this is the must-have book every parent of a boy will want and need to turn to as their child grows from a baby to an adolescent. Illuminated by Thompson’s years of experience working with boys and their families, this book is chock-full of new insights and the latest science about the ages and stages of boys’ development. It—*It’s a Boy!* is a book that parents, educators, health professionals, and policy makers will go back to again and again and each time come away with a deeper understanding and appreciation of why boys will be boys. —Robie H. Harris, author of *It’s Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, and Sexual Health*—“Bringing together the latest research and the most timeless knowledge and wisdom, this monumental book is unique, invaluable, and urgently important. Any person who cares about boys must own this book, as it addresses every relevant question and provides not only authoritative answers but also comfort, warmth, enthusiasm, and spark. What a truly amazing achievement, what a gift Dr. Thompson has given us all. —Edward M. Hallowell, M.D., author of *Delivered from Distraction: Getting the Most Out of Life with Attention Deficit Disorder*

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.

‘It’s A Boy’ is at once interesting, helpful and reassuring to any parent. It was written with the bias that the mother is the primary caregiver, which is not entirely the case in my household, where my

wife and I both share that joy and responsibility. That foible aside, I feel that I have benefited from this book as a parent, and have already recommended it to fellow parents of boys. It's not so much that what you learn in the book will blow your mind or be a completely novel insight into parenting a boy; it might, but chances are your experience with your son has taught you many of the lessons of this book already by now. The book offers some fresh insight into the average developmental processes for boys, which helps reassure you about the normal developmental process and also prepare you for what's ahead.

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.

My husband said our 11 year old will learn everything he needs to from his friends. With that said, I scoured the library for a book that could teach me about my son as he begins to grow into his toughest years. I checked this book out three times and decided it was one I have to own. Dr.

Thompson has taught me (or rather, warned me) that my son is about to begin to push away from his mother, something I had no idea about. I am preparing for this push-back by working on and securing the relationship we have now. I thought all I had to do is teach about the birds and bees. This book is next to my bed. I use it to review what I go through with my sons, and to preview what is ahead. This book doesn't preach or tell you how to raise your child. It gives you the low-down of how boys work, think, and function. I have told every friend with a son(s), that they must own this book, too. I feel armed for the next chapters of my sons' lives. Very grateful.

I'm expecting a baby boy this October and want to be prepared. I honestly thought I was going to have a girl, so I am now busy rewiring my brain into "boy mode"! In "It's a Boy!" you're presented with facts and reassurance as well as great tips and techniques to raise your son from birth to the age of 18. After reading this book, I feel like I have a much better idea of what to expect of my son (even though the author makes it very clear that each child is different from one another and that it's most important to spend enough time with your son to get to know him) and how to tackle the task of motherhood together with my baby boy. I especially enjoyed how much reassurance the author managed to give me in parenting and how much less intimidated I am by the idea of having a son now. He clearly states that boys, above gender, are individuals, and that if you take your time to get to know your son - his moods, his needs, his cues, and have understanding for how confusing it is to be a new human being on this planet, that he'll love you and get attached to you without much struggle. The book incorporates many quotes and stories from parents of boys and is a great compilation of parenting techniques and insight into your little man's way of thinking at any age. Great buy that will help me for many years to come!

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