



TYPICAL FOR THIS AGE

CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

LEARNING & GROWING STRATEGIES

Power Plays
Assertive

Surprise -
if you give me two choices,
I'll find three (I'm "outside the box" now).
I know your weakness - I will negotiate!
I want to win! I know the rules.
- I can't resist breaking 'em.

Does everything have to be a challenge?
I don't want to raise a criminal.
My child KNOWS right from wrong!

Compromise the little stuff.
Think two steps ahead in negotiations.
Include child in rule setting.

Great Communicators
Sense of Humor
Whining and Bathroom Talk

I know how to "get" you.
I know how to use language for attention
(to cajole, to persuade, to annoy, to win).
Language is power!

I am enjoying this little person.
Sometimes, it's like fingernails on a chalkboard!
It's easy to forget how little he is.

Ignore provocations.
Stay calm.
Only respond to appropriate language.

Masters of Play
Cooperative but an Exclusive Club

I'll pretend "this",
you pretend "that".
We'll pretend together.
That's for GIRLS... That's for BOYS.
You can't play with us...
Nanananana!

When did she become so bossy?
Shouldn't I stop her from acting like that?
I didn't teach him stereotypes.

Set guidelines & give reminders.
Observe & teach problem solving techniques.
Gender stereotypes are a starting point for learning.

Imagination Games
Superheroes, Imaginary Friends, Tall Tales

I can make it up
IN MY OWN HEAD!
Stories are REAL to me.
Tell me again what's real, what's pretend.
I say what I think you want to hear
because I want to please you.

Is this "normal"?
I'm worried about aggression and pretend "guns".
How can I teach her not to "lie"?

Give safe spaces for imagination and imaginary friends.
Moral teaching starts later.
Repeatedly clarify "real" vs "pretend" (wishful thinking).

Questions about "Life" and "Death"

Is my mommy going to die?
What will happen to me?
I'm noticing handicaps,
race, and old age.

I'm not ready for these questions.
I don't want to lie but I don't know what to say.

Be prepared.
Explore own fears.
Answer questions simply.