

Parents December 2006 Issue Highlights

-Parents Editors Available for Interview-

THE SANTA QUESTION

What do you say when you son or daughter starts asking whether Santa is real?

When kids turn 6 or 7, they develop a more finely tuned sense of logic and reasoning. So at this stage in their development, many long-held and cherished beliefs—from the Tooth Fairy to Santa Claus—suddenly face their intense scrutiny.

Child development experts agree that you should never flat-out lie your child about Santa. But the editors at *Parents* suggest three strategies that will help you answer the question while preserving the joy of the holiday season. Pages 62 - 65.

Related: Frightened by Santa?

How to deal with small children who are afraid of Santa Claus – or for that matter, anyone else in disguise, such as the clown at a birthday party or a character at a theme park. Page 44.

IS YOUR CHILD A PUBLIC MENACE?

Bad behavior is hard enough to deal with at home. But when it happens in a grocery store or a restaurant, you need to think fast – and keep it from happening again. We've got solutions for 5 tricky situations when all eyes seem to be watching. Pages 50 – 55.

Sidebar: How to Tame Humiliating Holiday Behavior

Here's how to smooth things over when:

- Your child squirms when relatives try to kiss him
- Your child whines when her grandmother gives her a sweater instead of a toy
- Your child ignores your relatives and focuses on her new gifts instead

THE BUSY MOM'S GUIDE TO ENTERTAINING

Or, The *Parents* Guide to How To Buy Everything You Need for a Smashing Party in One Trip To Your Local Warehouse Store! Great shortcuts to throwing a fabulous party with amazing appetizers, delicious entrees, and to-die-for desserts—without slaving away in the kitchen. Pages 181 – 188.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

From writer Kristine Breese, a list of the eight simple gifts she wants to give her kids—ones that will mean more to them than the stuff they'll find under the tree. Pages 132 – 136.

MOM TO GLAM (IN 24 HOURS)

Indulge in a day of beauty, and look gorgeous for a night out or holiday party. Page 100.

GET IN THE SPIRIT WITH... THE PARENTS HOLIDAY PODCAST! Get great advice for the season with our special holiday edition of the *Parents* podcast. Highlights from this episode include: expert advice on Santa, tips on how to make playtime meaningful, and solutions for your trickiest holiday dilemmas. Download it now at parents.com/podcast.

OTHER:

PEDIATRICIANS' BEST COLD AND FLU REMEDIES: What Your Doctor Does When His Own Child Has a Nasty Cold, Fever or Flu. Pages 82 – 86.

PARENTS EMERGENCY GUIDE: CPR For Children. Lifesaving steps to rescue your child if she stops breathing. Plus: When you need to use CPR; CPR for babies; when to see an EMT asap. Page

75 - 76

VACCINE UPDATE 2007: The immunizations your child will get this year are safer – and more essential – than ever. The latest news about which shots kids need now. Page 119

FIVE NATURAL FERTILITY BOOSTERS: Trying to have a baby? Low tech, low cost strategies that can help you conceive. Page 92.

Editors from *Parents* are available to comment on these and other seasonal and newsworthy topics.

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