Take the Modern Dad's Quiz: How Well Do You Know Your Children?

This activity is excerpted from The Modern Dad's Dilemma: How to Stay Connected with Your Kids in a Rapidly Changing World, 2010, New World Library, Novato, CA with the permission of the author, John Badalament.

For additional information, please go to www.moderndads.net
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Most of us think we know our kids pretty well, sometimes even better than they know themselves, right? Well, in order to test our knowledge, I have developed a short quiz for dads to take. For some, this will be simple; if so, consider it an affirmation of what a great parent you are. For others, especially dads with limited contact with their children, this will be a more difficult exercise; use the quiz as a reminder, motivator, or wake-up call.

Take the following quiz alone. Answer all the questions you can for each of your children. When you finish, check your answers by talking directly with your child, your child’s mother, or your partner. Make sure you fill in any questions you got wrong or left blank.

1. What recent accomplishment is your child most proud of?

2. Name one of your child’s big disappointments this year.

3. What are your child’s current prized possessions?

4. What is your child’s favorite food?

5. Can you name your child’s teachers?
6. Name two things your child did at school in the past two weeks.

7. What is most challenging about school for your child?

8. What does your child like about school?

9. What does your child like to do in his/her spare time?

10. What types of music does your child listen to?

11. Which TV shows, movies, actors/characters, and athletes are popular with your child and his/her friends?

12. What are his/her three favorite websites?

13. Does your child belong to any social networking websites (MySpace, Facebook, Club Penguin, etc.)?
14. What causes your child the greatest stress?

15. Who are your child's close friends, and why does he/she like them?

16. Who are your child's heroes and role models?

17. What would your child like to be when he/she grows up?

18. What is something that really upsets your child?

19. What does your child like to do with you?

20. What does your child love about you?