

School-Age Issues Research Paper

As you may well remember, the elementary school years can be challenging ones to navigate. It is a time of great growth and development, facilitating children entering the years of adolescence either well prepared or unprepared.

You are assigned to choose one of the topics listed below, research your topic, and write a 2-3 page research paper following the **Guidelines for Written Assignments** handed out with this assignment.

Topic Options, with suggested questions:

- Friendships and Social Development** – how are friendships formed, what are differences between shy and outgoing children and how they develop
- Bullying** – what are long term and short term consequences for the bullied child? For the bully?
- Team Sports** – what are the pros and cons of children participating in team sports?
- Precocious Puberty** – what is it and how does it impact children? What treatments are given?
- School Readiness** – redshirting children, testing for readiness, pros and cons of delaying kindergarten enrollment
- ADHD Diagnosis and Treatment** – what is it, how is it diagnosed, long –term effects.
- Learning Disabilities** – prevalence, how are they diagnosed, education options
- Childhood Obesity** – prevalence, treatment, prevention
- Topic of your choice** – You may propose another topic of interest to you and have it approved by Mrs. Seward. You must propose the topic, along with the questions you intend to answer, in writing.

For this paper, your **audience** is to be parents of school age children. It should be of the quality that someone might read in a well-written parenting magazine.

The **purpose** of your paper is to inform. In the introduction and body of your paper you are to give a fair and balanced treatment of your topic. It is not a platform for persuading others to believe as you do. The body of the paper should present the information in a way that leaves the reader in the dark about what you personally think about the topic. ***In the conclusion of your paper, you are to give your own views about the topic. Reflect on what you have learned and what use you plan to make of the information.***

The attached Grading Rubric will be used to assess your paper. It was written to make this assignment as clear as possible and the process of writing this paper as painless as possible. Read it carefully and follow it meticulously!