

4 Things No Parent Is Prepared For

Description

It doesn't matter how much you love your child.

It doesn't matter how many parenting books you've read.

It doesn't matter how often you've told yourself you wouldn't make the same mistakes than other parents make.

There are many parenting situations that nobody is prepared for. These situations can be challenging. They can push you to your limits. They can get you outside of your comfort zone. More importantly, they test you, sometimes in the most brutal way. Nobody is born a parent. But while most people have expectations of what it would be like to have a child and of how they will help their children to explore the world, real life can be full of surprises. If you and your partner are expecting a child, these are some of the most unexpected challenges that you might need to face. There is no right or wrong answer. But here is, in 5 examples, the heartbreaking truth that no parent wants to talk about.



[Are you ready for the challenges of parenthood?](#)

Challenging health conditions at birth

When you have a child, you expect that your son or your daughter will outlive you. It is the way things should work. So, it can be devastating for many parents to discover that their child was born with a health condition that can significantly reduce their life expectancy. Unfortunately, there is no answer to the typical question: What do I do now? Some parents choose to fight to give their child the best chances in life, such as the parents of Alfie Evans, the [little boy born in the UK with a fatal disease](#). The toddler was kept alive by artificial ventilation for the best part of his life and the family spent a lot of time researching legal options to give time for his condition to improve. Unfortunately, when it was clear that Alfie couldn't be saved by medicine, the parents lost their legal battle and their son died. This soul-breaking experience is one of many parents. Parents of a baby born with [Edwards syndrome](#) often face the pain of losing their child within a few days after the birth. In this condition, like in Alfie's case, it is unfortunately advisable to take no measure to sustain the life of the child due to their medical abnormalities.

Troubling and unexpected allergies

Not all medical conditions have dramatic consequences. A baby that is born with an allergy can enjoy life normally. However, it is essential that parents remain attentive to signs of troubles or negative reactions to external factors. For instance, a baby who is [allergic to baby formula](#) might be often sick after their feeding time and may express discomfort through crying during the digestion period or showing a skin reaction. Allergic reactions can be difficult to spot if there is no history of allergy in your family! Additionally, allergies can lead to terrifying reactions in a newborn from vomiting to purulent rashes.

Difficult behaviors

Babies, when they grow up a little and reach toddler's age, can begin to interact with their surrounding in highly emotional ways, such as throwing a tantrum when they are displeased with events. While tantrums are a perfectly normal phase of parenting, it can be challenging at the best of times. After all, a lot of parents can feel at a loss when their [child misbehaves](#) so severely that it causes a strain on familial relationships. Tantrums are not acceptable and need to be targeted effectively. But could there be a medical condition that can explain your child's reaction? Kids who suffer from ADHD or anxiety are more likely to throw terrible tantrums, for instance. Additionally, if you're too worried about the attention that your child's behavior brings to be a responsible parent – aka, if you give in at the first tantrum to get your peace back – aka, you might encourage negative behavior.



[Does your child behave?](#)

Troubles at school

Finally, when your child goes to school, most parents hope that their kid will bring back straight As within a few weeks. Unfortunately, kids who struggle with maths, or reading are not uncommon. Some troubles can appear as early as during the third grade. Don't be harsh with your child. Instead, take the time to address their issues as early and in-depth as possible. Learning disabilities do exist, and when treated effectively, they don't need to be an obstacle. Indeed, [dyslexia, dyscalculia and concentration disorders](#) can be identified, so that your child

can receive the support they need. Ultimately, there is no need to make a child feel stupid when they are struggle with learning difficulties!

Becoming a parent is a challenging experience. You need to prepare yourself mentally and emotionally for a variety of stressful situations. Remember that a good parent is someone who can accept their child as they are. Youâ€™™ll never be alone through difficult times.

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