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TAMPA BAY
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Parent Talk
E NEWS

May 6, 2009

Happy Mother's Day from The ParentGuide®

The Best Job in the World

This job's a tough one, Lord,
but the perks are beyond compare.
Who else but a mother
knows the joy of satisfying
a human being's every need?
Who else but a mother
sees love come alive a hundred ways,
from jelly-smearred kisses and
diminishing sobs
to crayoned valentines
and soggy, shared suckers?
Thank you so much for this priceless privilege,
this role so few get to know.
Inadequate as my training,
inept as I might be,
I know I have tenure for life.
Even so, I ask your assistance
in making sure I deserve it.
For a bad mother is the worst nightmare
a child can ever know,
and a good one
a dream come true
to curl up with for life.

With permission, taken from [Jayne Jaudon Ferrer's book](#),
A New Mother's Prayers, Loyola Press.

In This Issue

[The Best Job in the World](#)

[Read the ParentTalk Blog](#)

[Mother's Day Outing to the Zoo](#)

[Custom T-shirt for Mother's Day](#)

[Letters from Mom Keepsake](#)

[Expert Video Advice for Parents](#)

[IKEA Comes to Tampa](#)

[MOSI Mother's Day Tea](#)

[Best of the Bay Survey Results](#)

[Ultimate Online Camp Guide](#)

[WIN a Mabel's Labels Camp Pack](#)



[Read](#) the full version of the

Read Our New Blog!

Thank a teacher this week...

Throughout our lifetime, teachers play a significant role in our day-to-day dealings. First we spend twelve (or more) years learning from our own very wide variety of teachers, and then we do it all over again as parents of students. If you do the math, teachers touch us for more than half of our lifetime and have a cumulative influence second only to family..."

[Read more](#)

Parent Talk
BLOG

print magazine!



Mother's Day Outing to the Zoo!

Looking for a fun outdoor activity to help celebrate Mother's Day? ParentGuide has a family-four pack of tickets to the Lowry Park Zoo that you can win by Friday.

[Enter contest](#)



Unique Mother's Day Gift Idea

Personalize your gift to mom or grandma this Mother's Day with a one-of-a-kind custom t-shirt that shows off a beautiful child/grandchild, a colorful drawing or a special message. You can do it local and do it within a day at Big Frog Custom T-Shirts and More in Clearwater or South Tampa. They take your photos or art and using a special process put it on a shirt with no set up fees and no minimum orders. For less than \$20 you can have a gift mom will really love. Check out www.bigfrog.com.



ParentGuide and Big Frog want to give our readers a chance to win a free custom t-shirt just in time for Mother's Day. [Enter Contest](#)

Event Spotlights This Week

For more family events visit our [calendar](#) at parentguide.com

May 9: Safety Harbor Public Library Book Sale

May 10: Mother's Day Roller Skating Party

May 14-17: Disney on Ice "Worlds of Fantasy"
St. Pete Times Forum

May 15: Third Friday Music Series
Downtown Safety Harbor



Letters from Mom

If Mother's Day has you feeling a bit emotional as you consider the short amount of time you actually have with your children as children. The years fly by and before you know it, college, wedding and



grandkids. Each moment, each year is a gift and though you cannot capture time in a bottle, you can capture today in a letter to your child. A relatively new company called Once Upon a Family has a thoughtful selection of products for creating memories and special scissors are not required. A favorite is the "Dear Sweet Child Letter Box" box that comes with elegant materials to write 21 letters, one for each year. When the time is right, mom gives the box with all the letters to the grown child as a very special gift. [See this product.](#)

Expert Video Advice for Parents

Expert advice from Dr. Donna Williams can now be [viewed at our website](#). In the privacy of your home, view short but helpful videos on a variety of topics including "Stimulating Baby's Sensory Development" and "How to Know When to Potty Train a Toddler." More than 22 videos are now online. Dr. Donna is a licensed psychotherapist and has her Ph.D. in early childhood education and development, a B.A. in psychology and an M.A. in counseling education. She also has a toddler who keeps her on her parenting toes.



IKEA Comes to Tampa

ParentGuide says "welcome" to the new [IKEA store](#) that opens today and "woo hoo" for all of us who love their great products and enjoy the one-of-a-kind shopping experience that can only be had at an IKEA store. Even if you don't need furniture, they have accessories, kitchen gadgets and food that you won't find elsewhere. Don't miss their selection of kid stuff which is practical, colorful and affordable. They also have a drop-off kids area and a cafeteria, so gather up the girlfriends and plan your outing. But eat your Wheaties first because it will be a big fun day.

IKEA[®]
TAMPA

Spoil Mom On Mother's Day at MOSI

MOSI Mothers' Day Tea includes high tea service in the BioWorks Butterfly Garden and a gift she will always cherish. Seatings are at **11 a.m., and 1 p.m. on May 9 and 10** --\$24.95 for adults, \$19.95 for children 12 and under. Members enjoy special discounted pricing- --\$19.95 for adults, \$14.95 for children 12 and under. Call (813)987-6000 to make your reservation. Seating is limited.


MOSI

Does your Mom make your heart flutter? MOSI's Adopt-A-Butterfly program offers symbolic butterfly adoptions for mom or that special someone starting at just \$25! Honorees receive an official adoption notice, a personalized butterfly certificate and butterfly photo. Visit www.mosigiving.org or call (813) 987-6077 for details.

Best of the Bay for Baby Survey Results



We asked -- you voted ... for those businesses & resources that make your life as a parent in Tampa Bay easier, more enjoyable. We thank you for taking the time out of your busy day to vote for your favorites! Visit the winners in person -- they will all be featured in July's issue of [Tampa Bay Baby](#). Enjoy! [View survey results](#)

Ultimate Online Camp Guide

Parents are busy and so ParentGuide created a year round online guide to help make one of your tasks much easier. It's an easy and convenient way to shop for camps for summer and holiday breaks, plus before- and after-school programs. [Search the camp guide.](#)

WIN a Mabel's Labels Camp Pack

Mabel's Labels makes sure your child's gear gets home. Ideal for school and camp, this set of 75 personalized labels is a stylish yet convenient way to label shoes, clothes, bags and more. ParentGuide.com has one set of labels for a lucky reader.



[Enter contest](#)