

PARENTS JULY 2006 ISSUE PREVIEW

-Parents Editors Available for Interviews-

ON THE COVER

The Winner of the Annual *Parents*/Regis and Kelly Beautiful Baby Contest

Ta da! ... the winner is 2 year old Luke Oldmixon, awarded the grand prize for the annual *Parents*/Live with Regis and Kelly cover competition. Earlier this year, the show got more than 100,000 entries, and then more than 250,000 people cast their votes for the cutest kid. Five lucky finalists got to fly to NYC for the cover shoot, and the chance to be on this month's cover! – Page 18.

Summer and the Great Outdoors

Back to Nature -- Your kids play outside all the time – but have they ever stopped to smell the flowers, touch the rocks or listen to the wind? Here are seven fun activities that will teach your kids to get outside and look at the natural world in a whole new light. Bonus: Learn what to put in an explorers' tool kit... and review the basics for a nature walk. – Page 106

The *Parents* Great Outdoors Emergency Guide

How to keep kids safe when they're hiking or camping. Includes hiking do's and don'ts; how to detect dangerous plants (poison ivy, oak, sumac); bug bite basics; and how to stay safe while you're canoeing, building a fire, or when you're surprised by scary wildlife. – Page 57.

Drowning Dangers Did you know that drowning is the leading cause of injury-related death among children ages 1 to 3, and the second-leading cause among kids under 15? Here are vital precautions that every parent should follow when you're near a pool, lake or the ocean. Plus: In "Drain Alert," the magazine warns about the relatively unknown but deadly danger to children who might get trapped by the suction in a pool or hot tub. -- Page 120

Trend: Potty Train Your Baby... Before He Can Even Stand Up?

Is super early potty training a smart idea – or just a total hassle? A look at the current "potty whispering" trend, the history of this practice, and a comparison of practices around the globe. – Page 112.

Are We There Yet? Traveling with A Toddler

Getting cold feet about that family summer vacation with your tots? As long as you're prepared – and realistic – your trip can go surprisingly well. Here, the best ways to tackle the most common problems so that vacationing with a little kid doesn't become too stressful. – Page 149

Parents Report: Boy? Girl? Your Choice

Cutting-edge techniques can help couples conceive the baby of their dreams. But is that such a good thing? - Page 102

Testing Family Restaurants – How Four Popular National Restaurants Stack Up:

Parents sent a reader and her family on a mission to rate Olive Garden, Applebee's, Outback Steakhouse and T.G.I.Friday's. – Page 97

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