

SUMMER PARTY SUCCESS: FOOD, MUSIC, DECOR

Akron

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FREE! Spend your money on your kids!

Home and Education Resources for Today's Parents PACK

Head to **Pennsylvania** to check out these fun spots **SUMMER**

AVOID

8 HELPFUL TIPS »

STAY-

These local dads go from the kitchen, classroom and accountant's office to being Mr. Mom

Local festivals to visit

with your family PLUS: Our fair calorie counter (read before eating that hot dog!)

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Be the all-star example. As a parent, you set the ne for how your kids will treat other players, coaches and office s. Speak to the coach with respect. Congratulate players for a ll done.

Help them handle a strike-out, with dignity in life, can be an opportunity to grow, improve and able lessons. Discuss how the loss makes them feel, w she can do next time to help the team win.

Teach them to read the plays. Games on the field teach kids how to communicate clearly and concisely. To accurately pass a ball to another player, they'll have to learn non-verbal communication and in some cases verbal skills. If they seem frustrated on the field, talk to them about how they communicate with coaches or fellow players.

Encourage discipline by running the drills. Athletics can teach kids how to be disciplined, even when they don't feel like it. By holding them accountable to the commitment they made for attending practice and games, you will help them keep the more important commitments they encounter as they get older.

Show them the value of blowing the whistle. Help them learn honesty and integrity by encouraging them to follow the rules of the game. It can be tempting to not report if a ball was really out - but encouraging honest behavior will produce kids who are trustworthy.

Bring you're A-game and make it last. It's GAME TIME, and with it comes traditions that teach values and respect, such as the playing of the national anthem. Fond memories and good friends around a common goal help to create healthy, happy kids, who grow up to be productive, polite adults.

-Scott Gale, youth football coach



Editor'spicks



Livi.Lu.Lu **Graphic Gift Set** Everything a girl wants packed in a funky, reusable bag: Fruity lotion, shimmering shower gel, lip balm and more. Don't forget the shimmery ornament and peace and love stickers because that's what Livi is all about. \$14.95, www.Herban Renewalinc.com.

Sport-Brella

The SKLZ Sport-Brella gives you instant protection from the sun, rain and wind with its domed shape, side flaps and 125 SPF. It includes top wind vents, side zippered windows, internal pockets for valuables and convenient carry bag and ground stakes. \$69.99, skizstore.com.



See Dick Bite Jane From strangers constantly "tummy touching" to sandbox "negotiations," this book is the perfect primer for every possible parenting pitfall. Features true tales of "uh-ohs" and "oh, nos" from mortified moms and dads and helpful advice, \$14.95. www.adamsmedia.com.

