

## 9-10 Year Well Child Visit Center for Child & Adolescent Health St. Christopher's Hospital for Children (215) 427-5985



### What will happen today:

- You and your doctor will talk about your parenting, your home, your health and safety as well as your child, and keeping your child happy and healthy.
- The doctor will discuss upcoming changes during puberty.
- Discuss interactions at school with peers and teachers.
- Discuss your child's sense of responsibility, self-confidence, and decision making skills.



#### **Growing Up**

- Assign chores to teach independence and responsibility.
- Give your child personal space at home to allow for a healthy sense of self.
- Be a positive role model by showing and talking about respect and anger management skills.
- Talk about avoiding alcohol, tobacco, and drugs. To start, ask if they know anyone that uses them, or if they have ever watched someone use them.
- Expect new adolescent behaviors. Be supportive.
- Answer questions about puberty and sexuality. Ask your child's doctor if you need help on how to talk about it.

#### **Healthy Relationships with Peers**

- Know your child's friend and their families, and watch them when under your care.
- Talk about activities that your child and their friends like to do together and show interest.
- Ask how they will deal with being pressured to do things they do not want to do, and help them to be prepared.



#### **Preparing for Puberty**

- Personal hygiene is very important. Promote daily bathing and cleansing routines.
- Discuss body changes. Prepare them for a growth spurt.
- Discuss normal menstruation and ejaculation early.
- Set reasonable limits and discuss coping skills before school begins.

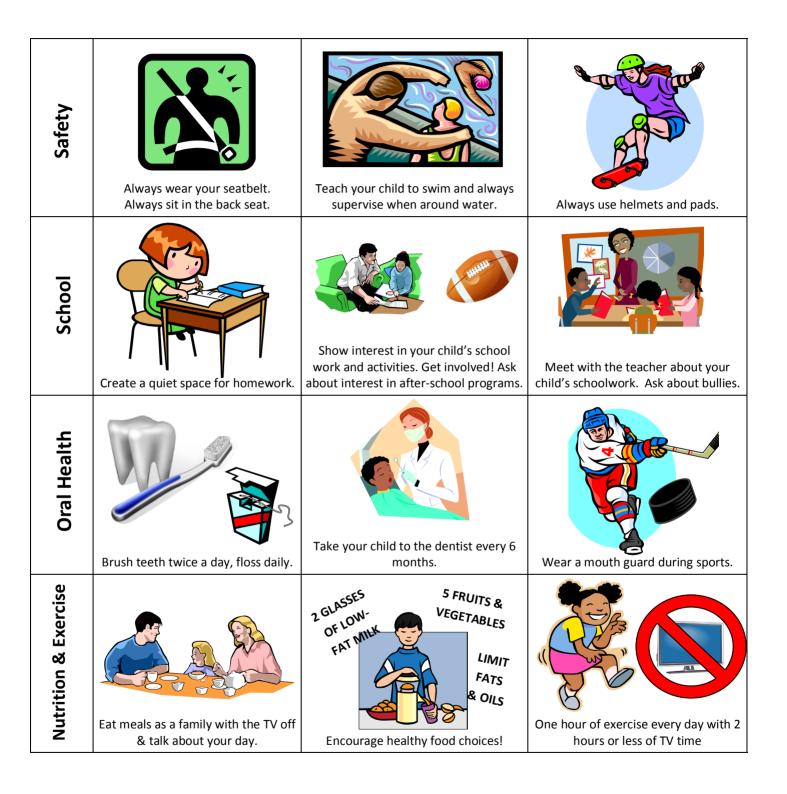


Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222



Adapted from Bright Futures.™

# Staying Healthy for 9-10 Year Olds



At the next visit: Your child will have a physical examination. Your child may receive immunizations. If you need to discuss a concern about your child, please call us at 215-427-5985.



This handout is originated by Lusine Ambartsumyan, MD, and Rupal Pinto, MD, and edited by Danielle Mercurio, D.O. 2012.

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