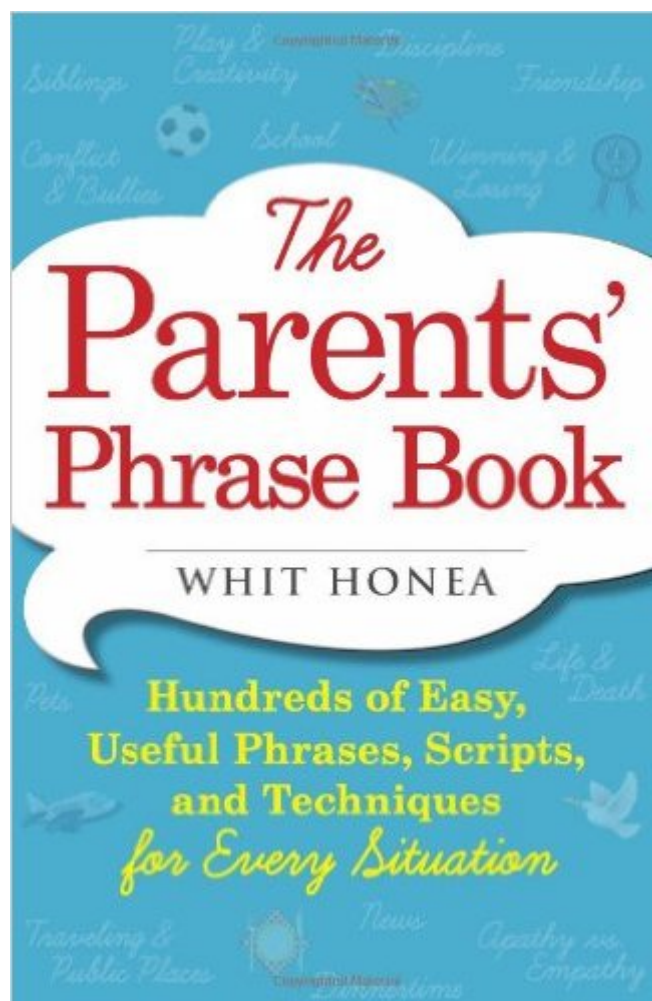


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# The Parents' Phrase Book: Hundreds Of Easy, Useful Phrases, Scripts, And Techniques For Every Situation



## Synopsis

"Children can be like a foreign country, and this is the phrase book and guide book that adults need to navigate that landscape sensitively and effectively." - Catherine Connors, Editor-in-Chief, Disney Interactive Family

"The Parents' Phrase Book shares [Whit's] helpful insight into parenting in a way that is thought-provoking, heartwarming, and always entertaining." - Ed Sanders, TV Host (Owner's Manual, Extreme Makeover: Home Edition)

"Whit is...high on my list of people to ask for advice if I wasn't sure how to deal with a parenting issue." - Matt Blum, Editor-in-Chief, GeekDad.com

"The Parents' Phrase Book is the go-to guide...for the wild rollercoaster known as parenting." - Mike Adamick, Author of Dad's Book of Awesome Projects; MikeAdamick.com

"No matter how much we study and experiment, our best efforts as parents get lost in translation.... This book is the closest thing we have to a 'Dead Sea Scrolls' for parenting." - Charlie Capen, Author of The Guide to Baby Sleep Positions; HowToBeADad.com

What do you say when your child gets caught in a fib? Or asks you about the birds and the bees? With The Parents' Phrase Book, you no longer have to worry about coming up with the right response on the spot. Written by Whit Honea, a parenting expert whose advice has appeared on BabyCenter, Babble, and the Huffington Post, among others, this valuable guide provides you with the key language and tactics you will need to deal with a variety of parenting situations. Inside, Honea explains why his approach quickly resolves issues and why so many of the parenting phrases you hear on the playground may actually encourage children to misbehave. From tackling sibling rivalry to handling bullies at school, The Parents' Phrase Book will help you connect with your child and address even the toughest parenting dilemmas.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #847,429 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #70 in [Books > Self-Help > Inner Child](#) #642 in [Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Fatherhood](#)

## Customer Reviews

Whit Honea is a funny writer. Let's start there. When I heard he was getting a book deal, I knew it was going to be worth the read, but as I've said to other people this book is like the funnier dead sea scrolls of parenting. I am constantly trying to communicate with my son and Mr. Honea has a knack for summing up what I want to say and giving me great ideas on how to voice my thoughts. Parenting has so many boobytrapped topics, but with this book, I feel like I can actually speak the words I want and with a little bit of humor. Bottom line: funny, useful and worth the purchase.

If you're a parent, you've said the wrong thing. Don't deny it. Parents move through the day under duress, tired, distracted and -- let's be honest -- often on the verge of tears. Compounding the problem? Kids instinctively wait until the least opportune moments to spring the most difficult questions or weave the most awkward scenarios. Cue the inappropriate retort or out-of-proportion admonition, followed shortly thereafter by wave upon wave of crushing guilt and feelings of inadequacy as a parent. Wouldn't it be nice to have a catalog of appropriate verbal responses at your disposal? Now, you do. Whit Honea, one of the most prolific and talented writers on the Internet, has published a must-have guide for parents who would prefer not to inflict verbal scars on the cerebral cortices of their offspring. The Parents' Phrase Book is, in short, short-hand for the short-sighted or long-winded or loud-mouthed among us. Or for any parent, really. Actually, though? It's full of the kind of advice that applies to all sorts of human communication, not just those conversations that call upon one set of people (parents) to say exactly the right thing, EVERY SINGLE TIME, so as to avoid a lifetime of confusion and possibly permanent emotional damage of another set of people (kids). Throughout the book, Honea's wit and wisdom shine through. He presents with aplomb the complex situations parents face every day (including common variations on the themes), and lays out what to say -- and what not to say. He reminds us that listening to our children is just as important as saying the right things, and even though there is pressure to present the best example possible for our kids, it also is fun (and funny). "After all," Honea writes, "is there anything better than the sound of a child's laughter?"

Anyone who's spent time with kids knows just how many questions they can come up with. But what happens when the kids become older and the questions become ... tricky? I was really pleased and delighted to find some excellent answers and conversation starters in The Parents' Phrase Book, a sometimes sweet, sometimes wickedly funny how-to guide when it comes to difficult topics. It's like having your good friend available for backup. From school issues to friend problems to losing at sports to dealing with a death in the family, there are straight-forward, no nonsense suggestions for

having even the most difficult conversations with kids -- all laced with humor and heart. I had been struggling with talking to my daughter about the death of my brother, and I found the Parents Phrase Book had some just spot-on advice that I know will stick with me for a long time to come. Love this book in every way. A perfect gift for new parents or for anyone who might navigate the delightful world of questions from children and want a little help along the way.

I'll be frank: Whit Honea is a writer whose words can make you take a knee and lose your breath. If you're not familiar with his emotional and hilarious writing already, go seek it out. And in the meantime, "The Parents' Phrase Book" is a must-have manual for parenting. Not in the sense that Whit is telling you a step-by-step for raising your kid, but that he's offering you some indispensable "what to say" and "what not to say" tips. Even for a parent who thinks they have a grasp on what to say and when, Whit will change the way you react to your child when they tell you they're sad about a pet's death, when they say they almost got cooties at school, or when they are celebrating a win in little league. I cannot underscore more that Whit is an incredible writer. Both new parents and veterans alike have something to gain from Whit's words. Read the introduction - graciously presented by - and you'll see the kind of wordsmithery you can expect from "The Parents' Phrase Book". You're still reading what I wrote and you're not buying the book? God that makes you look like a fool.

There's been many a moment, too many to mention, too many to be comfortable with, too many to ever be considered a parenting "expert," where I've snapped, just completely lost my marbles while attempting to communicate some point, some lesson, some basic instruction to my daughters. It's embarrassing, but it happens. In every single episode of the Poor Moments in Parenthood web series I am most certainly NOT creating, I'd have been a better dad had I first consulted The Parents' Phrase Book by Whit Honea. And I mean, instant better dad. Inside this paperback book are hundreds of common phrases and questions uttered by kids who don't want to eat that, don't want to go to bed now, want to know where babies come from (gulp) and if the tooth fairy is really real, want to quit their sport because they are not good at it yet, are apoplectic about not getting the lead in the school play, and are despondent over the loss of a pet. And in every case, every single one of them, we each have our own gut-reaction reaction (or grand plan of distraction, in the case of THE TALK: "who wants ice cream!!?" •) but unlike the evidence laid out in Malcolm Gladwell's Blink, your first instinct in parenting communication is not always best. Children sometimes do need to hear the straight answer, yes, the hard truth, the black & white of it

all, but more often than not a parent must employ a deft verbal touch, and quickly, as well as a nuanced story from the past or a well-crafted hypothetical situation, to best teach a lesson, impart wisdom, or just to get the adorable devil to stay in her own bed. In *The Parent's Phrase Book*, Honea offers up alternative, measured, and thoughtful "yet 100% realistic" retorts to just about every childhood occurrence imaginable and slips in enough of his poetic storytelling to make *The Parent's Phrase Book* a terrific narrative read too.

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