

Study Guide

Directions: Answer the following questions as you read the chapter. They will help you focus on the main points. Later, you can use this guide to review and study the chapter information.

Section 21–1: Family Stresses

1. After his parents divorced, Josh, age three began snatching his baby sister’s bottle and drinking from it. What sign of stress is Josh displaying? _____

2. Identify three signs of stress in children under the age of five. _____

3. Identify three signs of stress in teens. _____

4. Give four examples of family situations that commonly cause situational stress in children.

5. What can parents do after a move to help children adjust? _____

6. Should children be told of family financial problems? Why or why not? _____

7. How should parents tell their children that they are going to divorce? _____

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Family Challenges

Chapter 21 continued

8. If children will go back and forth between homes after a divorce, how can the parents help them feel comfortable at each home? _____

9. How can support groups help families of substance abusers? _____

10. According to research, what two factors influence children's view of death? _____

11. How are children at ages two, six, ten, and fifteen likely to view death? _____

12. What feeling do many children have when a parent dies? How can the surviving parent help the children cope? _____

13. What are possible warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide? _____

Section 21–2: Children with Special Needs

14. Give two examples of invisible disabilities. _____

15. Do most children with a learning disability have below-average intelligence? Explain.

Family Challenges

Chapter 21 continued

16. Why do children with *dyslexia* have difficulty reading, writing, spelling, and doing math?

17. Compare ADD to ADHD. How are the symptoms similar? How are they different?

18. Identify two causes of mental retardation. _____

19. What should parents do if they suspect their child has a serious emotional problem?

20. Describe three traits often associated with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). _____

21. What are the educational rights of children with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act? _____

22. How do children with disabilities—and other children—benefit from the IDEA’s policy of inclusion?

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Family Challenges

Chapter 21 continued

23. Where can parents of children with disabilities get advice and discuss common problems? Where can they get financial aid? _____

24. Describe three traits that may suggest that a child is *gifted*. _____

25. What do gifted children need to reach their potential? _____

Section 21–3: Child Abuse and Neglect

26. Identify and explain the meaning of the four major types of child maltreatment. _____

27. Give two signs that might indicate each of the following problems.

A. Neglected child: _____

B. Physically abused child: _____

C. Sexually abused child: _____

D. Emotionally abused child: _____

Family Challenges

Chapter 21 continued

28. Describe three family situations that often seem to be involved in child abuse cases.

29. Why does substance abuse often lead to child abuse? How are some addiction counselors able to help families?

30. Who does the law identify as mandated reporters? What are they required to do? _____

31. What is the purpose of crisis nurseries? _____

32. How is learning about child development one way to help solve family problems? _____

Helping Children with Problems

Directions: Below are several letters written to the advice columnist of a local newspaper by parents who have troubled children. Read each letter and then answer it in the spaces below with the best advice you can give.

1. Ever since the divorce, my daughter, Jada, has been acting as if I make her life miserable. I can't figure out why, since she knows the breakup was her father's fault. Every Saturday morning, when he picks her up, she's sunny and cheerful. On Sunday, when Jada comes back home, she's grumpy and upset. Why is she taking it out on me?

2. My wife's mother is dying of cancer, and we wonder what to tell the children. They are 10 and 12. They haven't seen their grandmother in a long time, but they were very close to her before. Should we take them to the hospital or not?

3. My brother just died in a car accident, and the funeral will be in a couple of days. I am not sure whether to take my five-year-old son to the funeral or whether I should leave him with friends. All the family will be there, but he's the youngest. What should I do?

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Family Stresses

Section 21-1 continued

4. My husband and I separated two years ago. The kids seemed to handle the situation well, but now my fourteen-year-old, Kyle, has become very withdrawn. He hardly talks to me, and when he does, he's usually angry. Could it be a delayed reaction to the separation? What should I do?

5. Our family is excited about moving to a larger city, but our 10-year-old has suddenly started complaining of headaches. How can we get him to relax and convince him it really isn't a big deal? The move will be a fresh start for all of us.

6. My daughter Jema has a friend who is very ill. Jema is very upset. How can we help her get through this time?

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Living with Children with Disabilities

Directions: Suppose you are a professional counselor who has a radio call-in show. People phone you with their problems, and you try to offer suggestions for handling those problems. Examples of calls that you have received recently are shown below. In the spaces following each caller's question, write what you would advise.

1. My ten-year-old has Down syndrome. The school system wants to put him in a regular classroom. I'm very worried that the other children will pick on him and tease him. The kids in the neighborhood are fine with him, but in regular classes, there will be others who don't know him. I don't want his feelings to be hurt. Should I fight this idea?

2. My six-year-old daughter has never done well with other people. She cries whenever she is in a new situation, and it has gotten worse now that she's started school. She hates to go out in the morning. What might be the problem?

3. In many ways, our son seems very intelligent. He solves everyday problems easily. He remembers things we tell him. Yet he is far behind his classmates in reading and math. His aunt is a teacher, and suggested that we have him tested for dyslexia. We aren't sure. We don't want the school to label him as mentally retarded. What should we do?

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Learning About Child Abuse

Directions: Monte Foreman, a television talk show host, is interviewing Jessica O’Brien, the author of a book about child abuse. Read the questions that Monte asked and then, taking the role of Jessica O’Brien, answer them. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. I would have thought that people who had been abused as children would be the last people in the world to abuse their children, but your book says that they are more likely to do so. Why is that?

2. How do you think the Internet and other technology have contributed to the growing problem of child abuse? What type of abuse is involved?

3. You say that child abuse can occur without a parent ever touching a child. How can that be?

4. What should an abusive parent do to get help?

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Child Abuse and Neglect

Section 21-3 continued

5. What are some warning signs that might indicate that a child is being abused?

6. In your book, you say that a child’s counselor will report evidence of abuse to the authorities. Isn’t this an invasion of the family’s privacy?

7. What should people in our audience do if they know a child who appears to be abused?

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