

I'm Too Young to Stress Over College

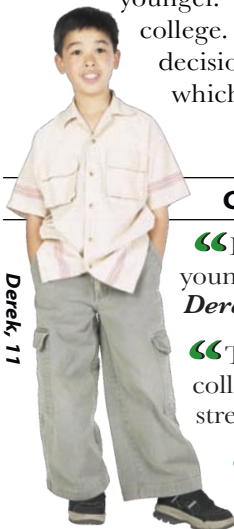
Shouldn't I just concentrate on Fifth Grade?



Photos by Nova Development Corp. (Girl, Boy, Baby)

How and when should kids begin to

think about college? There's little consensus among educators or parents. Kids, however, have two clear suggestions. First, keep college pressure at a minimum, especially when the kid is younger. Focus on the fun or interesting aspects of college. And second, parents shouldn't make decisions without input from the kid. Don't assume which fields or schools are of interest.



Derek, 11

By ANDY SHEN, with input from hundreds of kids

Comments from Kids

“Hey, look, I'm barely 11, and I'm WAY too young to be stressing over getting into college.”
Derek, 11

“They keep telling me I must get into the *right* college. Instead, I'm just learning how to be stressed-out.” *Jenny, 14*

“Dad really wants me to be an aeronautical engineer. What IS an aeronautical engineer?”
Lucinda, 13

“I wasn't allowed to join the Hip-Hop Club. But now Mom made me join the Algebra Team. Ugh.” *Emily, 12*

“I know you want the best for me. You're just a little too early.” *Eduardo, 12*



Learn more!

Visit TipsFromKids.com/4.9 for helpful links and discussion tips for adults & kids.

Tip: Adults, Try This

“How 'bout if our family has some fun by hanging-out around a nearby university once in a while? That way, I'll start to be aware of college life, without the pressure. We could watch a swim meet, see a play, maybe find the best french fries.”

Jaime, 15