

## Getting Connected

Ah, the good ol' days when letters were written in longhand on pretty paper and with no abbreviations — OMG! Today technology has made staying in touch so much more streamlined. This month we explore some of the pro's and con's of our current "connectivity," as well as other considerations for staying connected

## In This Edition

**The Ups and Downs of Connecting Online**

**A Parent's Guide to Great Playdates for PreSchoolers**

**The Paradox of Technology**

**Kinder, Gentler Error Messages**

## Staying In Touch

### The Ups and Downs of Connecting Online



Socializing has never been easier than with the Internet and there are several online tools to help you communicate. Clearly, we humans are social animals. We need relationships. However, connection over the Internet does pose some problems.

[More...](#)

[En Español](#)

## Quick Links

- [Download the Newsletter](#)  
- [English](#) / [Spanish](#) / [Text, ES](#)

- [Download the Monthly Calendar](#)

### Quick Halloween Costume

Are you a sports fanatic? Don a bike helmet, hockey glove, soccer jersey, football pants, one baseball cleat and one running shoe, a swimmer's nose plug, grab a tennis racket...you get the idea! Go through the house and grab what's there!

## Worklife Balance



### A Parent's Guide to Great Playdates for PreSchoolers

Playdates are about many things, not the least of which is teaching children important social skills. They are learning to connect! But playdates do take some orchestrating, particularly for preschoolers. [More...](#)

[En Español](#)

## Webinars

### EEK! You're Screaming! The P's & Q's of Email Etiquette

Choose a session below and register today!

**October 5th @ 12 PM EST**

**October 7th @ 3 PM EST**

[Click here to download a list of free webinars for October 2010.](#)

## Mind Matters



### The Paradox of Technology

Can you become "addicted" to cell phones or the Internet? Mental health and addiction experts are still debating this question. Another important question to ponder: is our technology really connecting us — or isolating us?

[More...](#)

[En Español](#)

## Family Traditions

### Thanks for Sharing!

In our August newsletter, we asked you to share your favorite family traditions. Thank you for your responses! We received many responses, ranging from fond memories of the past to current customs.

[Click here to view a few of the wonderful traditions you shared.](#)

## Computers Wax Poetic



### Kinder, Gentler Error Messages

Some say computer error messages in Japan are written in Haiku. So as you sit before your computer screen, imagine a blank screen, or a screen of garbled text. Now, check out some of these error messages for a kinder, gentler message. [More...](#)

[En Español](#)

## Learning Curve

### Teens Online

A 2008 University of California study found much of the time teens spend online is beneficial. They gain valuable technical skills such as designing Web pages, writing blogs, and creating PDF's. They also get feedback and encouragement from their peers.