

Enrichment

Use with Chapter 4, Lesson 6.

Thinking About Parenthood

Read the following stories. Then answer the questions in the space provided.

1. Debbie is a single mother with two children. She works every day but gets home in time to make dinner for herself and the children. At dinner, she and the children talk about what they did that day. Every night at bedtime, Debbie reads a story to the children. On Saturday nights, Debbie gets a baby-sitter for the children and then goes to dinner or to the movies with a friend.

What is Debbie doing that is positive for her children? What is she doing that is positive for herself?

2. Sandy and Bob began going steady in their sophomore year of high school. They got married right after graduation. By the following spring, Sandy was pregnant. Shortly after the birth of their baby, Bob dropped out of college so he could work at two jobs to support his family.

Why is this teen marriage likely to fail?

3. In many ways, Ann and Tom are wonderful parents. Ann stays home and devotes herself to her children. Tom works at two jobs so he can provide for his family. Tom and Ann teach their children the necessary life skills and proper values. However, they have difficulty communicating with each other, and they are considering divorcing.

What responsibility of parenthood have Ann and Tom neglected?

4. Barbara was still in high school when she found out she was pregnant. After she told her boyfriend the news, he stopped paying attention to her. She tried to hide her pregnancy from other people, and she never went to see a doctor. She also smoke and drank while she was pregnant. When Sean was born, he weighed less than 5 pounds.

What problems may arise for Sean and for Barbara because of his low birth weight?
