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Ask the Experts - Episode 20

Andrew Greenfield – Child Psychologist

Why are kids at their most terrible when they are two? ... asks Jenny, VIC

Kids are at their most terrible when they are two because that is when children first start to develop language or language becomes more automatic and they start to talk back to their parents.

They are also a little egocentric and they think the world revolves around them. Also, children become more aware of their surroundings and they want to test the limits of their parents and everything around them.

It is not so much that it is just between the age of 2 and 3. It is really every age from then but that is when it starts to develop and hence the name, terrible twos.

How do you measure a child's IQ? ... asks Mareena, NSW

Measuring a child's IQ is normally done by an intelligence or IQ test. There are four main areas to the test: verbal reasoning (response to verbal questions), non verbal reasoning (visual spatial orientation), working memory (this tests for more than short term memory) and processing speed (how fast the child processes information).

All those factors combine to give an overall full scale score and that is what people refer to when they are talking about an IQ score.

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