

**child**[tʃaɪld] *n* (*pl* children)

## 1. 1) ребёнок, дитя, младенец

male [female] child - новорождённый мальчик [-ая девочка], младенец мужского [женского] пола

child welfare - охрана младенчества /детства/

child hygiene - *мед.* гигиена детского возраста

mother and child - мать и дитя

Mother and Child - мадонна /богородица/ с младенцем

to be with child - быть беременной

four months gone with child - на пятом месяце беременности

big /great, heavy/ with child - на сносях

he got her with child - она забеременела от него

from a child - с детства

the child unborn - *преим. ирон.* невинный младенецthe slaughter of the children - *библ.* избиение младенцев

## 2) ребёнок, мальчик; девочка

children and adults - дети и взрослые

what a sweet child! - какой очаровательный/милый/ ребёнок; какая милая девочка *или* какой славный мальчик!

she is an obedient child - она послушная девочка

young child - маленький /грудной/ ребёнок, младенец

high-school children - школьники старших классов

you speak as a child - ты говоришь /рассуждаешь/ как ребёнок /по-детски, наивно/

children's hospital - детская больница

children's service - *мед.* детское отделение (*больницы*)3) *диал.* новорождённая девочка; младенец женского пола

a boy or a child? - мальчик или девочка?

4) *библ.* отрок

## 2. ребёнок, чадо, дочь

children and parents - дети и родители

an only child - единственный ребёнок

she is my own child - она мне родная дочь

I call him my child - я называю его сыном

my children! - *возвыш.* дети мои!child of shame - *возвыш.* дитя (её) позора

to own a child - признать своё отцовство

children's allowance - пособие на (содержание) детей

children's hour - время, которое родители уделяют детям, «детский час»

3. *юр.*1) малолетний (*до 14 лет*)2) несовершеннолетний (*до 18 лет в Великобритании*)4. *неодобр., шутл.* сущее дитя (*о взрослом*); взрослый ребёнок

don't be such a child! - ≅ тебе пора повзрослеть!

5. *редк.* отпрыск, потомок

child of our grandmother Eve - дочь Евы, женщина

6. *возвыш.* детище, дитя, сын

child of the Renaissance - сын /человек/ эпохи Возрождения

children of the East - сыны Востока

child of the forest - сын лесов (*индеец*)

child of nature - дитя природы

the children of Israel - *библ.* сыны Израилевыthe children of light - *библ.* сыны света

child of the soil - а) местный уроженец; б) крестьянин; в) дитя природы

## 7. порождение

fancy's child - порождение фантазии, плод воображения

dreams ... the children of an idle brain (*Shakespeare*) - сновиденья ... плоды бездельницы-мечты8. = *childe*

◇ children should be seen, and not heard - в обществе взрослых дети должны молчать

a child may have too much of his mother's blessings - ≅ слишком нежная мать портит дитя

this child - *амер. шутл.* я; ≅ ваш покорный слуга

children and chicken must be always picking - ≅ ребёнка, что цыплёнка, досыта не накормишь

children learn to creep ere they can go - ≅ всё в своё время; нельзя забегать вперёд

a burnt child dreads the fire - ≅ пуганая ворона куста боится

**child****child** [child children] *BrE* [tʃaɪld] <sup>ˈ</sup> *NAmE* [tʃaɪld] <sup>ˈ</sup> noun (*pl.* chil-dren *BrE*[ˈtʃɪldrən] <sup>ˈ</sup> ; *NAmE* [ˈtʃɪldrən] <sup>ˈ</sup> )

## 1. a young human who is not yet an adult

• a child of three/a three-year-old child

• men, women and children

- an unborn child
- not suitable for young children
- I lived in London as a child.
- a child star

**see also** ↑[brainchild](#), ↑[latchkey child](#), ↑[poster child](#), ↑[schoolchild](#)

**2. a son or daughter of any age**

- They have three grown-up children.
- a support group for adult children of alcoholics
- They can't **have children** .

**see also** ↑[godchild](#), ↑[grandchild](#), ↑[love child](#), ↑[only child](#), ↑[stepchild](#)

**compare** ↑[kid](#)

**3. a person who is strongly influenced by the ideas and attitudes of a particular time or person**

- a child of the 90s

**4. (disapproving) an adult who behaves like a child and is not ↑[mature](#) or responsible**

**Idioms:** ↑[child's play](#) ▪ ↑[with child](#)

Word Origin:

Old English *cild*, of Germanic origin. The Middle English plural *childer* or *childre* became *children* or *children* by association with plurals ending in *-en*, such as *brethren*.

Thesaurus:

**child** *noun*

**1. C**

- a child of three/a three-year-old child

**boy** • • **girl** • • **toddler** • • **baby** • |[informal kid](#) • • **youngster** • • **lad** • |[formal technical infant](#) • |[informal, disapproving brat](#) • |[law minor](#) • • **juvenile** •

**Opp:** [adult](#), **Opp:** [grown-up](#)

a **young** child/boy/girl/baby/kid/infant

a **little** child/boy/girl/baby/kid/brat

**look after/take care of** a child/baby/kid

**Child or kid?** **Kid** is much more frequent in informal and spoken American English. **Child** is not often used of sb older than about 12; above that age you can call them **kids**, **teenagers**, **young people**, **girls**, **youths** or **lads**.

**2. C**

- She has three children

**son** • • **daughter** • • **boy** • • **girl** • • **baby** • • **kid** •

a **newborn** child/son/daughter/boy/girl/baby

**have/give birth to** a child/son/daughter/boy/girl/baby/kid

**bring up/raise** a child/son/daughter/boy/girl/kid

Collocations:

**Children**

*Having a baby/child*

**want** a baby/a child/kids

**start** a family

**conceive/be expecting/be going to have** a baby/child

**miss** your period

**become/get/ be/find out that you are** pregnant

**have** a baby/a child/kids/a son/a daughter/twins/a family

**have** a normal/a difficult/an unwanted pregnancy; an easy/a difficult/a home birth

**be in/go into/induce** labour (*especially US*) labor

**have/suffer/cause** a miscarriage

**give birth to** a child/baby/daughter/son/twins

*Parenting*

**bring up/ (especially NAmE) raise** a child/family

**care for/ (especially BrE) look after** a baby/child/kid

**change (BrE) a nappy/(NAmE) a diaper/a baby**

**feed/breastfeed/bottle-feed** a baby

**be entitled to/go on** maternity/paternity leave

**go back/return to work** after maternity leave

**need/find/get** a babysitter/good quality affordable childcare

**balance/combine work and** childcare/child-rearing/family life

**educate/teach/home-school** a child/kid

**punish/discipline/spoil** a child/kid

**adopt** a baby/child/kid

**offer a baby for/put a baby up for adoption**

(*especially BrE*) **foster** a child/kid

**be placed with/be raised by** foster parents

Example Bank:

- After they divorced, he refused to pay child support.
- Children grow up so quickly!
- He had old-fashioned ideas on how to bring up children.
- He's always been a problem child.
- How many children do you have?
- It was a bit lonely being an only child.
- My father died while I was still a small child.
- She couldn't imagine the pain of losing a child at birth.
- She didn't have her first child until she was nearly forty.
- She works in a centre for delinquent children.
- Teaching is particularly difficult when a class contains both slow and bright children.
- The children were quite unruly and ran around the house as if they owned it.
- Their first child was born with a rare heart condition.
- There are a lot of street children in the poorer parts of the city.
- They are expecting a child in June.
- We had trouble conceiving our first child.
- We have three teenage children.
- We've got three teenage children.
- What a precocious child— reading Jane Austen at the age of ten!
- You can't spoil a child by giving it all the affection it wants.
- a child custody dispute between divorced parents
- a school for gifted children
- an organization that campaigns for the rights of the unborn child
- big with child
- good food for growing children
- tax concessions for families with dependent children
- the bastard child of romantic fiction and horror.
- the emotional connections which ensure healthy child development
- therapy for sexually abused children
- All the children learn to swim from an early age.
- She was a child star but never made it as an adult.
- The book is aimed at the parents of pre-school children.
- The film is not suitable for young children.
- a child of three/a three-year-old child
- He took the children to Disneyland.
- I'm an only child.
- Will you put the children to bed

## child

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**child** **S1 W1** /tʃaɪld/ **BrE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **AmE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **noun** (plural **children** /'tʃɪldrən/) [countable]

[Language: Old English; Origin: cild]



### 1. YOUNG PERSON someone who is not yet an adult **SYN** kid:

- The hotel is ideal for families with young children.
- The film is not suitable for children under 12.
- I was very happy as a child (=when I was a child).

#### a child of five/eight etc

- For a child of five this was a terrifying experience.
- a famous writer of children's books
- child victims of war

### 2. SON/DAUGHTER a son or daughter of any age:

- I have five children, all happily married.
- She lives with her husband, Paul, and three grown-up children.
- Annie had always wanted to get married and have children.
- Alex is an only child (=he has no brothers or sisters).
- Our youngest child, Sam, has just started university.

#### eldest child especially **BrE**, oldest child especially **American English**

- the decision to bring a child into the world (=have a baby)

3. **SOMEBODY WHO IS LIKE A CHILD** someone who is very strongly influenced by the ideas and attitudes of a particular period of history
  - child of
    - " a real child of the sixties
4. **SOMEBODY WHO IS LIKE A CHILD** someone who behaves like a child and is not sensible or responsible – used to show disapproval:
  - " She's such a child!
5. **something is child's play** used to say that something is very easy to do:
  - " I've cooked for 200 people before now. So, tonight is child's play by comparison.
6. **children should be seen and not heard** an expression meaning that children should be quiet and not talk – used when you disapprove of the way a child is behaving
7. **be with child** *old use* to be ↑pregnant
8. **be heavy/great with child** *old use* to be nearly ready to give birth

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**COLLOCATIONS**

■ **ADJECTIVES/NOUN + child**

- **a four-year-old/ten-year-old etc child** A four-year-old child should not be left on their own.
- **a young child** Young children are naturally curious about the world.
- **a small child** (=a young one) My family lived in France when I was a small child.
- **a newborn child** He was holding the newborn child in his arms.
- **an unborn child** (=a baby that is still inside its mother) Smoking can damage your unborn child.
- **a spoilt/spoiled child** (=allowed to do or have whatever he or she wants, and behaving badly) He's behaving like a spoilt child.
- **a gifted child** (=extremely intelligent) a special school for gifted children
- **a bright child** (=intelligent) He was a bright child – always asking questions.
- **a good/bad child** Be a good child and sit down!
- **a naughty child** (=doing things that are not allowed) He's behaving like a naughty child.
- **an easy/difficult child** (=easy or difficult to deal with) Marcus was a very happy, easy child.
- **a problem child** (=very difficult to deal with) Problem children may need to be removed from the classroom.
- **an adopted child** (=legally made part of a family that he or she was not born into) I didn't find out that I was an adopted child until years later.
- **street children** (=living on the streets because they have no homes) The organization aims to help street children in Latin America.

■ **verbs**

- **bring up a child** *especially British English*, **raise a child** *especially American English* The cost of bringing up a child has risen rapidly.
- **a child is born** Most children are born in hospital.
- **a child grows up** One in four children is growing up in poverty.

■ **child + NOUN**

- **child abuse** (=treating children in a very bad way, especially sexually) He was arrested on suspicion of child abuse.
- **child development** She's an expert in child development.
- **child labour** *British English*, **child labor** *American English* (=the use of children as workers) The garments were made using child labour.

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**THESAURUS**

- **child** someone who is not yet an adult. You don't usually use **child** to talk about babies or teenagers: Many children are scared of the dark. | He's just a child.
- **kid** *informal* a child. **Kid** is the usual word to use in everyday spoken English: We left the kids in the car.
- **little boy/little girl** a young male or female child: I lived there when I was a little girl. | Little boys love dinosaurs.
- **teenager** someone between the ages of 13 and 19: There's not much for teenagers to do around here.
- **adolescent** a young person who is developing into an adult – used especially when talking about the problems these people have: He changed from a cheerful child to a confused adolescent.
- **youth** *especially disapproving* a teenage boy – especially one who is violent and commits crimes: He was attacked by a gang of youths. | a youth court
- **youngster** a child or young person – used especially by old people: You youngsters have got your whole life ahead of you. | He's a bright youngster with a good sense of humour.
- **minor** *law* someone who is not yet legally an adult: It is illegal to sell alcohol to a minor.

**child**

12500 **116**<sup>MCW</sup>  
 15000 **104**<sup>COCA</sup>  
 RANGE: **1k CHILD** 369291  
 child 118550  
 children 231235  
 childish 1185  
 childhood 16786  
 childless 665  
 childlike 870

34202 **331**<sup>118401</sup> *nn1*  
48 **95066**<sup>65</sup> *nnu*  
48 **102691**<sup>56</sup> *jj*  
17 **164977**<sup>23</sup> *np1*  
5 **376442**<sup>5</sup> *cc*

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