

5 dangerous things you should let your kids do

1. Finish the sentences connected with childhood and discuss them with your partner.

- a) My earliest recollection of childhood is
- b) What I can remember as if it was yesterday is
- c) I will never forget
- d) With hindsight, I would/wouldn't
- e) When I was a child, I dreamed of being.....
- f) As a child I used to hate/love

2. Discuss the questions in pairs.

- At what age could you go to places by yourself?
- Could you play on the streets?
- What was the most dangerous thing you did when you were a kid?
- Would you say that your parents were overprotective?
- What things could you do as a child, that you wouldn't let your children do now? Why?
- Why are today's parents so overprotective?



3. Study the sentences and match the words and phrases in bold to the correct meanings below.

- a) I **take** anything she says **with a grain of salt**.
- b) She **bruised** her leg quite badly when she fell.
- c) We had to **figure out** the connection between these events.
- d) He played a **pivotal** role in the negotiations.
- e) One fan was **stabbed** to death in a fight between gangs.
- f) Our goal is to **empower** our staff.

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- 1) be able to understand something or to solve a problem **figure out**
- 2) regard something as exaggerated; believe only part of something **take something with a grain of salt**
- 3) give someone more control over their life or more power **empower**
- 4) kill or hurt someone by pushing a knife or other sharp object into their body **stab**
- 5) extremely important **pivotal**
- 6) cause a mark to appear on someone's body by hitting it **bruise**

4. You are going to watch a talk titled "5 dangerous things you should let your kids do". What do you think the speaker has in mind?

5. Watch the [talk](https://youtu.be/C-VacaaN75o) [https://youtu.be/C-VacaaN75o] and discuss the questions.

- What 5 things does the speaker actually mention? **play with fire, own a pocketknife, throw a spear, deconstruct appliances, break the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (+ drive a car)**
- Which of these things did you do when you were a child?
- Would you let your children do these things? Why/Why not?
- Should we take what the speaker says with a grain of salt?

6. Look at the statement by Hanna Rosin and complete each gap with one word only. Then, answer the questions.

HANNA ROSIN: *What I mean, is that we **have** become so preoccupied **with** safety, that we're basically robbing our children **of** the chance to take risks, the kind of physical risks, emotional risks, the kind of risks they need **to** become independent adults, basically. And so I tried to explore **why**. Why did that happen? How did we change **in** one generation so drastically the norms of childhood?*

Source: <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/parents-let-kids-take-risks>

- Do you agree with her? How can we empower our children so that they can still become independent adults?