

Do you know your kids' friends? Are you sure?

Circle of Friends

Learning how to make and keep friends is taught from a young age and is an important life skill. During the teen years the desire to “fit in” and spend time with friends becomes increasingly important. Getting to know your child’s friends is critical because it can tell you a lot about your own child. The desire for independence in the teen years often results with peer influences shaping your child’s new views and attitudes. By getting to know your child’s friends you will have a better understanding of what some of those influences might be.



Stay Connected

1. Learn the names of the child’s friends
2. Make your home a welcoming place for your child’s friends to hang out
3. Attend school and community events whenever possible
4. Make it a point to say “hello” to other kids at school and community events
5. Spend a few moments asking your child’s friends questions to get to know them, like “what spots do you like?” or “what is your favorite summer activity?”
6. Teenagers love to eat, so stock up on plenty of “fun food”
7. Plan fun activities that your kids and their friends can do with you

HELPFUL WEBSITES FOR PARENTS

www.branchcountysatf.com
webMD.com/parenting
parentfurther.com
theparenttoolkit.org
kidshealth.org

Get Smart Summer Updates Online:
Branch County Substance Abuse Task
Force

