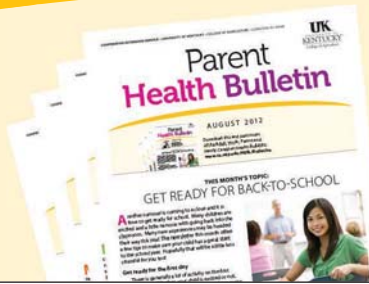


# Parent Health Bulletin



SEPTEMBER 2013

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## THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: CHEATING

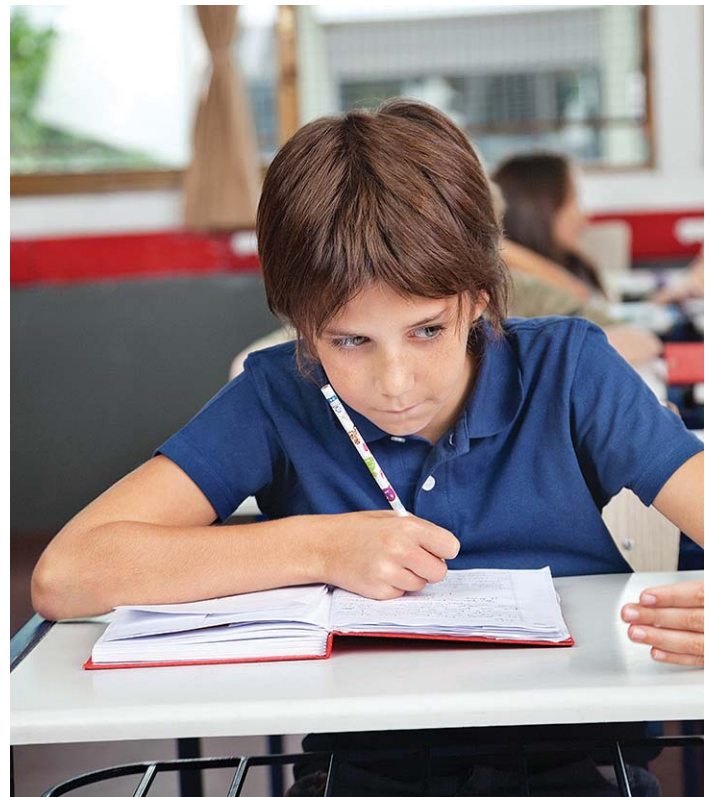
**C**heating at school is often seen as using someone else's work as your own. This can be done in many ways: sharing another person's answers on individual work, purchasing a paper or test questions, or even copying another person's ideas for a project or paper. It is important to talk to your child about what cheating is and why some people cheat.

### What is cheating?

Cheating is often seen as a way to get the best grade possible without having to do the work or copying another person's work to cover up the fact that an assignment is not finished. Acting dishonestly, such as lying about one's age in order to play on a certain team, is also considered cheating.

It may seem easy to cheat these days. You may know people who have done homework or projects for their child. When the child is unable to do the project without help, he or she may be missing out on the goal of the assignment, as well as valuable

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# *Cheating can include sharing answers, purchasing test questions, and copying another person's ideas for a paper.*



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skills, such as time management and planning for a big project. These are important lessons for children to learn as they will be valuable the rest of their life.

Your child may see people cheat and think that it is ok. For elementary and middle school aged children, cheating is often done because they want to be "liked" by another person in the class. Studies have also shown that boys are more likely to cheat than girls at this age. By high school, cheating is much more common among both boys and girls.

It may seem like everyone cheats these days because it is seen in politics and business, as well as at school and even in the home. Your child may think that someone who cheats is lucky because he or she gets to "do what they want, instead of homework." It may be helpful to explain that when someone gets caught cheating, other people such as teachers lose respect for that kid.

*Encourage your child to work hard and study. Do not forget to tell him or her how proud you are of their hard work.*

You also may want to explain that some kids may cheat because they want to do things other than homework. Some kids may also feel like they have to cheat to get a good grade and that they would not get a good grade without cheating.

If your child is struggling to finish all their assigned homework, you may want to talk to him or her about why it is taking so long. Maybe you can help your child find a system to make sure that all of the assigned work gets done.

It is not uncommon for kids to feel the need to cheat. For many reasons, cheating is never a good idea. In the end, the kid who cheats is not really getting ahead. Encourage your child to work hard and study. Lastly, do not forget to tell him or her how proud you are of their hard work.

#### REFERENCES:

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Parent  
**Health Bulletin**

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