

BIRTH ORDER

Do you make people laugh? Are you a perfectionist? Do you like to lead?

Understanding birth order may give you some insight into a better understanding of yourself, friends, family members, and co-workers. Some researchers believe that how you are placed in your family can have an influence on your _____ and _____.

FIRST BORN:

Usually born to _____ and anticipating parents, this child is the center of attention. Overall, parents tend to be _____, strict, and demanding. First borns tend to work harder for grades than do other children. They often grow to be more _____ and to have higher education and career ambitions. They are _____ to achieve (ex. Of the first 23 astronauts sent to outer space, 21 were either first-borns or only children!)



Typical Characteristics of First Borns:

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Only Children: They are considered a special type of first-born because they have many of the same characteristics



MIDDLE CHILDREN:

Middle children are very different than the first. Parents are less available and more _____ due to a busier life and more knowledge. Expectations aren't as high and _____ is less rigid. A good description of a middle child is _____. They tend to be good mediators and have strong cooperation skills and therefore make excellent _____.

Often, middle children build strong relationships _____ the home because of the constant battle for attention. First borns are jealous of their easygoing personality and middle borns are jealous of the praise firsts receive as a result of their achievements. There can sometimes be a relationship _____.

Friends become important to middle children and they have a strong loyalty to their peers. Often, they spend _____ time with friends than with family.

Typical Characteristics of Middle Children:

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YOUNGEST CHILDREN:

The last child has two possibilities in terms of how they will be treated by parents. Some are treated as the _____ of the family and others are a “restart” of the birth process and are treated like a _____. Generally, parents are more relaxed. Those treated as the baby are _____ by everyone and not taken seriously. Last borns are often spoiled one minute and _____ the next. Little is expected of them and although they are the center of attention, they are often put down. Youngest children are typically _____ and good _____. They are also affectionate, uncomplicated, and a little _____. They gravitate to people oriented careers.



Despite the fact that they are spoiled, there is little room left for the last born in the circle of older siblings. This can cause _____.

Typical Characteristics of Youngest Children:

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IMPORTANT NOTE:

Birth order is not used to categorize people – they are simply _____ that often apply. Each family is _____ and variables such as spacing, gender, and blending of two families can affect these generalizations.