

# My virtual child experience



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Virtual Child Reflection Paper Raising a virtual child was quite an enjoyable activity as I learned all about child rearing without the complications of having to raise an actual child. I found it interesting to be placed in situations wherein my parenting decisions were being put to the test. It was not difficult to use the Virtual Child program as it was very easy to navigate. Although the virtual activity was enjoyable, I wish that the program could have allowed me to feed, clothe, and play with the child in a similar fashion to the Giga Pet concept. That was the only thing missing in an activity that was practically perfect in every way. The outlined questions and questions pertaining to the virtual child were quite challenging.

The situations that were posed in the virtual environment could possibly be very similar to something one would experience in real life when dealing with a child. I often found myself asking if I would really handle certain situations the same way if it had happened in real life.

I am very proud of the way that I raised Aria. Since the program offered me a chance to treat her as a real child, I came to realize that I sounded like my parents sometimes. Usually when I had to tell Aria “ No” about certain things. I guess what my parents keep telling me is true after all. I will learn how hard it is to raise me after I have my own child. At my age of 22 I sometimes think that I am ready to face the world independently. But after raising Aria, I have come to realize that I will always need my parents guidance because it is hard to make my way in this world. More so if I end up as a single parent.

In hindsight, I believe that I should not have been so protective of Aria though. I know that I need to protect her but sometimes, an overprotective parent can turn into an enemy of the child. Which is why I am so glad that

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Aria still came to me with her problems and asked me for advice. She had complete trust in my guidance and judgment and as her parent, I was able to use those tools in order to steer her towards what is right. In a way, Aria was just like me when I was a teenager, I always went to my parents for advice instead of my friends. By doing so, things always turned out well. That is why I think I did very well in the advising part of the activity.

Thanks to the experience I have had with the virtual child, I now have a clear idea as to how I will raise my real child in the future. Having already learned the value of patience, love, and support for my child, I will make sure that my child never wants in those aspects. I know it will not be easy to raise my child in the future. But I hope that by using my virtual child experience, I will be able to create a close relationship with my child.

Aria was not a problem child and she actually turned out to be the way that I hope my future child will turn out. I just have to try and remember how I raised Aria and hopefully, it will work out the same way with my own child. I am so pleased that there was no difference between our textbook lessons pertaining to aging, and puberty. Even the real life situations with the virtual child came straight off the textbook pages. You might say that the virtual child program went "by the book".