

## Overheard

## Mother nature is very, very confused this year.

—Fiona, 5, looking out her Scarsdale window onto a snow-covered spring lawn

### "Mom, stop being so fastidious!"

-3-year-old Manhattanite Naladie, whose mom had told her to clean up her toys (mom's reaction? "That's four syllables. My brother had to Google it.")

## "Hashtag, one helper."

-Jenna, 6, reading aloud this line from a book: "#1 helper" (as her mom says, "Forget explaining that # also stands for 'pound' on a phone!")

"I might be lying. I might be telling the truth. You'll never know!"

-Noah, 5, taunting his elders with overly giddy enthusiasm about his very tall tale #FamilyDinnerConversation

## You made milk with your boobies just for me, right Mom? Did you ever make me cheese?

–5-year-old Vittorio to his mom after a discussion about where cheese comes from—and who can blame his reasoning? #GoatCheese #CowsMilk #Breastfeeding

## "You have a life, but you're not living.

-apropos of nothing, 11-year-old Amelia to her mom as she sat working at her laptop in their Long Island home



First time eating oatmeal this morning. Like a starving man at a buffet. (as shared by mama411nyc)



#### in an instagram 🐌



This is the look of a little girl learning to move, really wanting to come closer but somehow finding herself going backwards...slowly learning to crawl. She'll be chasing or scooting after her brothers in no time I'm sure. #10monthstoday and taking her time (as shared by sasadi, Brooklyn mama SaSaDi Odunsi, co-founder of Bump Brooklyn)

#### **#parenting @NYMetroParents**

@themamamaven: My 7 y.o. thinks Boston's "More Than a Feeling" sounds like her My Little Pony LeapPad Game. A little part of me just died. #rockclassic

@LIChevyMetsGrrl: "You wouldn't be tired if you stopped staying up playing." "How'd you know I was playing with my iPad?" "I didn't. You just told me." HA!

@Bookgirl96: Best call from school nurse ever: "Mrs. Schmidt, your son split his pants so badly that we can't send him to class. Please bring him pants."

@SelfishMom: Jake begged for mashed potatoes for dinner, but nobody else would tell me what they wanted/ didn't want. So I just made mashed potatoes.

@daliacolon: "Her milk was wet. #ReasonsMyKidIsCrying #ToddlerProblems #MommyProblems

@Pink: Willow said to me the other day whilst grabbing my belly-"mama-why r u so squishy?"And I said.. "b/cuz I'm happy baby"

@stuffmy6kidssay: 8y/o: "I'm terrible at chores. If I were my boss I would fire myself." Me: "You still have to do your chores."

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Everly Yuen, 5, heading to her friend's rock-star party in Park Slope on the D train, as shared by her Brooklyn mom Judy Wong on Facebook

# facebook。 FUN

"My 10-year-old son couldn't figure out how to get two Fig Newtons out of the package. I refused to help him because he's 10 YEARS OLD. After he tried for 20 minutes without making progress, I finally grabbed the package and opened it for him. Part of me feels had because I'm sure he feels like an idiot, but the rest of me is like @#\$%&?!?!?!" —NewYork dad Christopher F., via Facebook

"When my son and I meet my childless girlfriends for dinner out somewhere, I give him my phone to play games *the whole entire time*. I hardly ever get to see my friends and well, I see my kid every day." **#SorryNotSorry** —Kelly J. via Facebook



All comments from NYMetroParents Facebook feed (facebook.com/nymetroparents), where plenty of lively conversation takes place—often right after the kids go to bed! So check in then (or any time of day) to get in on the action.

## HAPPY CAMPERS

Forget winning color wars—it's the zany games, counselor clowning, and silly moments with friends that kids remember from summer camp.

You already know that summer camp is valuable, right? The impact camp can have on a child's growth and development, the independence it helps to foster, the vital connection to nature it can instill, and the lifelong relationships it often spurs are well-documented. But don't underestimate the power of all those laughs!

"The funniest day at Summer Trails is Crazy Hat Day. This year my friend put a banana on her head!"

-Bailey Ralls, age 8, Cortlandt Manor

"One of my all-time favorite camp events is Puff Eating Day. Puff Eating is a delicious and messy, no-hands dessert-eating contest. As a camper for 13 summers, I eagerly participated annually. Success was not only having a clean plate quickly, but making sure to have food smeared all over your face. When I was a camper, every summer one unsuspecting counselor got the treat of a surprise gooey, messy, tasty puff to the face.

The summer of 2013, after almost 20 years of puff-eating experiences, it was finally my turn as a staff member (to get a puff to the face). The campers got a great laugh, my co-counselors got a funny story, and I got a fantastic camp moment fulfilled that I will remember forever."

-Victoria Dosso, age 24, Yorktown

"One of my favorite memories from last summer was when my friends and I were playing duck, duck, goose. Instead

> of saying 'duck,' I switched it to 'bacon.' My friends all started naming themselves Bacon No. 1, Bacon No. 2, and Bacon 1,000.

My counselor then made up a new game called The Bacon Game. For the rest of the summer we laughed every time we played our newly created funny game."

—Hailey Sirkin, age 7, Armonk

"The ultimate baseball challenge on the fields of Summer Trails Baseball Camp is the World Series Tournament. Imagine, in between innings, when coaches appeared on the field with rakes

singing 'YMCA' at the top of their tone-deaf lungs!"

-Matthew Hirsch, age 8, Katonah

"By far the best was when we got to tell poop jokes to the counselors all day. It was their idea!"

-Jonas Goldstein, age 6, Manhattan

"There was an evening activity at camp to dress your counselor up as ugly as possible. Nate, our counselor, dressed up as a cow whisperer. He had extremely large nose hairs that we made from pipe cleaners and he spoke to cows! We painted a huge smiley face on his stomach, and we also cut the bottoms of his shirt to look like a hippie shirt!"

-Aidan Smith, age 11, Rockville Centre

"We had a summer storm and the fields got so, so muddy. We begged our counselor to let us continue our outside activities, and—so cool—he let us! We ended up creating a huge slip-and-slide in the area where the grass was not yet replanted. In our pictures later you can't even tell who's who, we're so covered in mud. It was awesome!"

-Carson Devere, age 9, East Islip



