

The Situation Report

July 9, 2014

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The Situation Report

About the Situation Report

The Situation Report is a document on the web which is written in real time and can be contributed to by anybody. When you are [viewing the pages inside the Situation Report](#), you can suggest changes, or submit additional information using the Discuss link. You can also send notes and questions to 32bpwr3@gmail.com.

Beta Testers Needed

I'm looking for [volunteers who are interested in beta testing a website](#) that my organization is building at EduGuide.org. The first exercise is really short and easy. Register for the beta test activity here or send an email to egtender@gmail.com if you would like to learn more.

The Miracle of Life

A [video popped up on my activity feed yesterday](#) which showed what happens during pregnancy from conception until childbirth. The footage was combined with a heart-pounding, booming score which helped to make things way more dramatic.

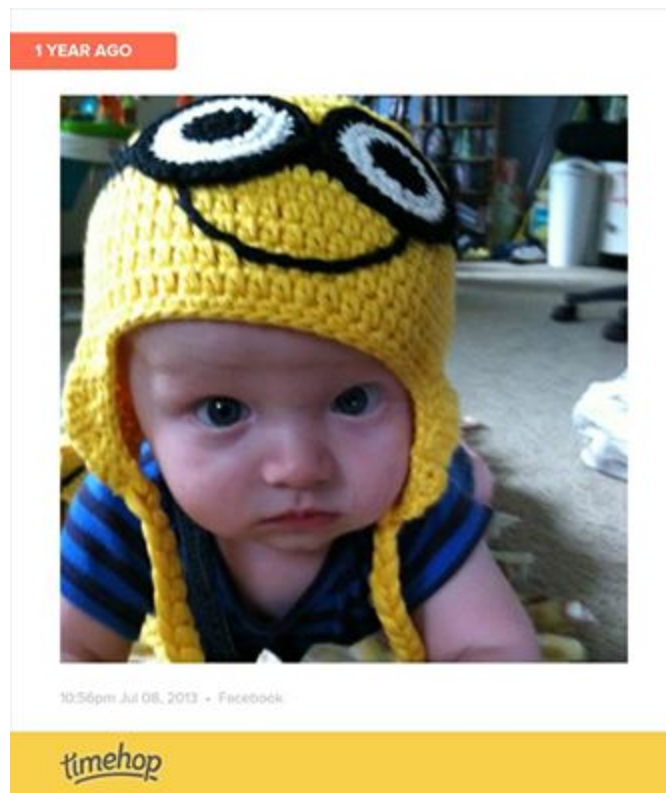
My 11-year-old son, Josh, happened to peek at my iPhone while I was watching it. I tried to explain that what he was seeing represented the "miracle of life," but he wasn't impressed. He said later that he is planning on adopting kids.

A few minutes after watching the video, he tried to explain to his sister what it was, and said that it was the "miraculous journey through the mother's body."

"No," I corrected him, "we call that 'lunch.'"

He laughed so hard, he shot milk out his nose.

Elijah, a year ago



I know that a year ago, it didn't seem possible that anybody could be as small as Elijah was. Now, all I can think about is how much bigger he has gotten.

Every evening after bathtime, I'm reminded of how big he has gotten when I fly him around the house before he gets his bottle. Since he was about six months old, part of the bathtime-and-bottle routine was to hum the theme song to "Superman" and then lift him up high in the air before flying him out of the room. When he got a little bigger, I began fastening his bibs onto him backwards so that they worked a little like cape. Gradually, I moved onto spit rags because they were a little easier.

But, flying him around has gotten more and more of a challenge. He is so much taller now that I definitely need both hands.

Having a 17-month-old around has other effects on me which I couldn't have anticipated. This morning I gave Kayla a long hug and told her I loved her before she left to walk to the library. What I didn't tell her was that I wanted to pick her up and hold her while I hugged her, like I can now with Elijah, but of course now that she's 13-years-old and nearly as tall as I am that's impossible. The same goes with Josh.

The Risks of giving your Mobile device to a Young Child

I read with [great interest an article](#) from the Huffington Post on the risks which come with allowing your children to play with tablets and smartphones. Two things that I never thought of was the brain development and the radiation. It has made me think twice about giving Elijah my phone the next time that he needs to be entertained, but I admit that it is going to be hard to keep it away from him—especially when he practically asks to play with it.

Thursday Throwback

Here is a Thursday Throwback all of the way to 2003 when Josh and Kayla were so much smaller.

Here is Josh:



And here is a photo of Kayla:

