

A Point in TIME

For lasting, beautiful memories in a snap, read on for some tips of the trade on how to take great pictures of your kids

Our children grow up so fast. It's no wonder, then, that as parents we feel so driven to record every moment of their lives lest we forget how much fun they had that Saturday afternoon in the park or how adorable they looked playing the part of a tree in that school play. And as much as we would like to take that "perfect picture" each and every time, kids are kids—they get dirty and they never stop moving. So photographing your children, whether you want natural, candid shots or a more formal portrait memory, can be a challenge even for the most patient of shutterbugs.

BAZAAR Junior caught up with photographer Carolyn Soemarjono, owner of Melia Photography, who gave us some insightful tips on how to take the best shots of our kids.



ACTIVITIES

When photographing children in their activities, don't try to capture too much in one shot. Some of your favourites are likely where you've captured something that reminds you of your child at that specific moment—a close-up of their ballet shoes, hair ribbons or muddy football boots.



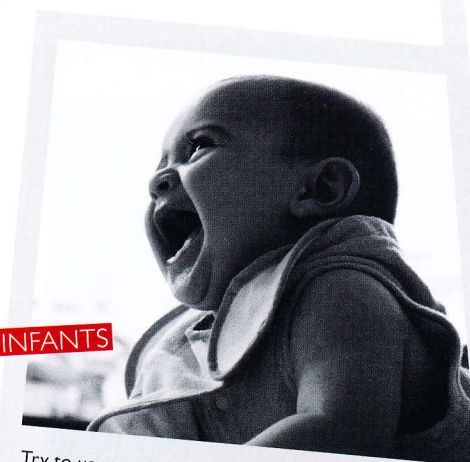
FAVOURITE SPOT

If I'm looking to specifically capture children's beautiful faces and personalities, I'd stick with very natural locations. My favourite spot is the Botanic Gardens. The greenery provides a natural, non-distracting backdrop, and each child I have photographed there has always found something fun to do—which translates to fun photos.



SMARTPHONES

With today's smartphones, you can capture that fabulous, spur-of-the-moment shot. In daylight they are often just as good as a small camera, but it's best to use a camera when inside or at night.



INFANTS

Try to use natural lighting and get close to baby. Consider a shot of just their face or toes or eyelashes! Remember, if you can't compose the shot, you can crop later. And play with different angles—pictures of baby lying on the floor work, as do photos of baby crawling.



PREGNANCY

It's all about the tummy! And a pregnant tummy gives you the opportunity to zoom right in and get some lovely bump shots. Try taking photos from the side to show off those wonderful curves.