

# **7 Quick Takes Friday: Becoming a soccer mom requires shin guards, birthday surprises, a great baby shower game, a thrift store find, a glowing unicorn for the teacher, and the wisdom of a child**

After avoiding organized sports for years, we're taking the soccer plunge this fall—with both boys. I have been worried about sacrificing our family time for sports. What I didn't know is that you don't just show up and start kicking a soccer ball. You have to wear shin guards and cleats. So