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Thread: [Mongoose findOneAndUpdate an embedded object and return parent](#)

bevc - February 5, 2020, 12:58 am

I'm having problems with a mongoose/mongo query. I want to find and update a subdocument that's embedded in a parent document in an array, and then return the parent document. So my schema is like this.....

```
Code const parentSchema = new mongoose.Schema({
  name: {
    type: String
  },
  ...
  children: [{
    childTitle: {
      type: String,
      max: 150,
      required: true
    },
    ...
  }],
```

and so on. Based on an answer I found on stackoverflow, I'm able to retrieve the entire parent document using the id of the subdocument (which seems like a query-saver), but then I can't figure out how to update the subdocument. I checked the documents for mongoose and tried to [follow their example](#), but it doesn't update my subdocument.

This is my code:

```
Code const filter = { 'child._id': req.body.childId }
const update = { childTitle: req.body.childTitle } // think the prob is with the 'childTitle' part here

let parent = await Parent.findOneAndUpdate(filter, update, {
  new: true,
  runValidators: true
})
```

It doesn't work, it returns the correct parent document but it doesn't update the subdocument. I strongly suspect it's something to do with my 'update' variable query but I'm buggered if I know what (I've tried it with and without '\$set').

Could anyone help point me in the right direction please? Thanks.

For info, I seem to have got this figured out by just cribbing another stackoverflow answer. This query gets me where I need to be.....

```
Code await Parent.findOneAndUpdate({ _id: req.body.parentId, "child._id": req.body.childId }, {
  "children.$.childTitle": req.body.childTitle })
Dunno why it works (what that '$' is doing in 'children.$.childTitle'), but it do.
```

