

CHILD SAFETY



SAFETY FOR CHILDREN

- Teach your children their personal information and make sure that they know it by heart. This information should include: their full name, phone number, and address including city and state.
- Agree on a secret password with your children; if anyone offers to give them a ride, or come inside your home, they must know the password before your child complies with the request. Only tell the password to individuals that you trust. Change it as frequently as necessary in order to keep it a secret.
- Teach them who to go to in case they get lost in a store, the mall, or on the street: a store clerk, security guard, or police officer. When your children express fears and feelings about people and places, make sure to listen. Reassure them to trust their instincts, and help them be able to figure out where to go if they are in danger.
- Have your children walk to school with friends instead of by themselves. Walk these routes with your children before they walk it alone. Make sure that they know safe places they can stop if they feel that there is danger. Tell children to avoid areas that could be dangerous such as empty buildings, alleys, and parks or playgrounds that have broken equipment or otherwise look unkept. Encourage children to be aware of what is going on around them. If there is anything that seems wrong or out of place, they should let a trusted adult know.
- Check out the policies and references of places that you leave your child, such as daycare, school, or with a babysitter. What are their certifications and staff qualifications? Will they call you if your child misses a day?

HOME ALONE

- Before leaving children home alone, make sure that they are old enough and mature enough to be responsible for themselves. Check on the state law about which age children can be left home alone.
- Leave a phone number where you can be reached as well as numbers for neighbors and in case of

emergencies. Make sure to leave these numbers by the phone, on the refrigerator, or somewhere that your children will be able to find and reference them easily.

- Have them check in with you when they arrive home. Let them know what the rules are for having friends over or leaving for a friend's house when no adult is home.
- Make sure that there is an adult - whether it is you, a neighbor, or an older sibling - that is responsible for knowing where children are when they are left alone.
- Make sure that they do not enter your empty house or apartment if something is amiss, such as a broken window or torn screen.
- Teach your children not to let anyone into the house without your permission. Never let a caller or someone at the door know that your child is there without an adult.
- Don't leave a house key hidden outside. Make sure that your child carries a house key with them and that it is in a safe place.
- Make sure they know that before they leave to a friend's house or other outing, they need to let someone know where they are going and when

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

When you're away from your car the only thing that comes between an opportunistic thief and the valuables in your car is a sheet of safety glass.

Many times car burglars are after your stereo, cell phone or other loose belongings you've left in your car in plain sight. **Have a record of every item with a serial number, computers, iPods, GPS systems, cell phones. With a serial number, the ability to recover your stolen item is greatly enhanced.**

Unfortunately, car burglaries can be expensive, from the cost of repairs to replacing your belongings. And they can leave you feeling victimized, too. You can minimize the likelihood you'll fall prey to a car burglary by following these simple burglary prevention tips.

CHILD SAFETY



PROTECT AGAINST SEXUAL ABUSE

- Be supportive when your child opens up to you. Make sure that they are comfortable telling you anything.
- Make sure that your child understands that no one has the right to touch them in an uncomfortable way. If this happens, your child should know to say NO and get to a trusted adult right away.
- Do not force children to make physical contact if they do not feel like it. This includes hugging, kissing, or even sitting on a grown-up's lap. This shows your child the control that they have over their physical contact, and teaches them that it is alright to say no.
- Always know who your child is with and where they will be.
- Behavioral indications of sexual abuse may include sudden secretiveness, withdrawal from school or activities, change in attitude towards those around them, or anxiety.
- Physical indications of sexual abuse may include: bedwetting, loss of appetite, venereal disease, or complaints of pain or irritation around the genitals.

Report sexual abuse immediately to the police or a child protection agency.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Mom or Dad's Work

Mom or Dad's Cell Phone

Neighbor

Family Friend who lives or works nearby

School

Family doctor

801-799-3000

Salt Lake City Police
(Non-Emergency)

801-799-4231

Salt Lake City Fire
(Non-Emergency)

1-800-222-1222

Utah Poison Control

**IF IT IS AN EMERGENCY
CALL 9-1-1**