

Child Supervision Informational Handout

Why children need supervision on playgrounds:

- Children can be expected to use playground equipment in unintended and unanticipated ways.
- Playgrounds present challenges and hazards for children, which are enhanced when children play in equipment inappropriately.

It is very important that you provide an adequate number of adults to safely supervise the children you are bringing. Please comply with the following recommendations:

Under 3 years old.....1 Adult for every ____ children

3-5 Years Old.....1 Adult for every ____ children

6-8 Years Old.....1 Adult for every ____ children

9-12 Years Old.....1 Adult for every ____ children

Share the following information with all adults who will be supervising children (chaperones).

1. Each adult will be assigned to specific children. We will provide you with a list.
 - a. Please ensure the children assigned to you know who you are and they report to you.
 - b. Explain to them that they are to report to you immediately when called.
 - c. Be aware of where your assigned children are at all times.
2. Please ensure that:
 - a. Children's clothing is appropriate: no strings, loose ties or hoods that can get caught on equipment, appropriate footwear, etc.
 - b. Children are playing only on equipment that is appropriate for their age and size.
 - c. You explain the rules to the children and then enforce them.
 - d. You stop all dangerous horseplay, such as children throwing things or jumping from heights.
 - e. None of the children assigned to you wander away from the play area or the area you are visiting.
 - f. Monitor the children to stop bullying, fights or other behaviors that negatively impact play and safety.
3. Expected adult behavior:
 - a. Limit conversations/discussion to necessary communication. Prolonged/involved conversations distract adults from appropriately supervising children.
 - b. Refrain from texting, talking and browsing on cell phones while supervising children.
 - c. Pay close attention to all assigned children. If you need to focus on one child, ask for help with supervising the remaining children.
 - d. Please do not bring extra children with you, even if they are yours.** Extra children disrupt the appropriate adult to child ratio and distract adults from supervising the children assigned to them.