

Summertime Safety

June 2011

Parenting *Rules!*

It's time for your kids to get outside, play, go to the beach or pool and enjoy a less structured schedule. Parents need to be aware of the dangers that come with summer activities and remember that children still need supervision when they are out of school!

The key to keeping our children safe is through careful and constant supervision.

In the Water

*All children need to be supervised while they are in the water and young children need to be closely watched **anytime they are around water.***

Whether you are heading out to the beach or just staying by the pool, keep these safety tips in mind:



- Do not leave your child alone in the water for **even a second!**
- **Empty** and put away the kiddie pool after each use
- Swim only in areas of the beach that are **supervised** by a lifeguard
- **Install fencing** with safety latches around your pool
- **Learn CPR** in case of an emergency
- **Always be sure your children are well supervised when playing in or around water!**

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Kids Will Wander...

Every year young children are reported missing when they have wandered away from their homes. Unfortunately some of these children are seriously injured, killed or ***never found***. During the summer months, families often leave their doors and windows open; however, when young children live in the house precautions need to be taken.

Protect your children this summer:

- Keep doors leading outside **locked at all times**.
- Do not depend on door handle locks, as many children can operate these. **Install a slider lock or dead bolt high enough** so your child cannot reach it.
- Look around your home for **possible ways** your child could get outdoors. For instance, pet doors are an easy way for young children to get outside.
- **Teach your children** that they should never leave the house without your permission.
- **Remember that locks are not a substitute for careful supervision.**



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Boy Is It Hot....

The inside temperature of a car can reach over 120 degrees in less than 20 minutes on a hot summer day. Your child's body temperature rises 3-5 times faster than that of an adult and can lead to heatstroke and death **within a matter of minutes**.

Approximately 400 children have died over the last 10 years after being left alone in a car. Some of these children became trapped while playing in the car and others were left while their parent ran an errand. Sadly, many of these incidents happened when a caregiver accidentally forgot a child was in the car.

Keeping your kids safe in and around cars is easy!



Just remember:

- **Never, ever leave your child alone in the car! Even for a second!**
- **Lock your doors** and trunk when your car is parked in the driveway.
- **Teach your children not to play in or around cars.**
- Put your child's diaper bag or other belonging on the front seat so you will be **reminded** she/he is in the car.
- Keep keys and remote devices **out of reach** of children.

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Resources for Parents

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

4330 East West Highway Bethesda, MD 20814
800-638-2772 www.cpsc.gov/kids/kidsafety/

Lifespan

167 Point Street Providence RI 02903
401-444-3500 www.lifespan.org/services/emergency/articles/default.htm

Rhode Island Parent Information Network

175 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 02860
401-727-4144 www.ripin.org

SAFE KIDS Rhode Island

55 Claverick Street Providence, RI 02903
401-444-5018 www.safekids.org

ABOUT PARENTING RULES! E-NEWS...



Prevent Child Abuse
Rhode Island



Rhode Island

Family & Children's Trust Fund

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Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island
500 Prospect Street Pawtucket, RI 02860
ph: 401.728.7920 fax: 410.724.5850
www.preventchildabuse-ri.org

Please share this information with the families in your programs. Thank you!