

SUDDENLY IN CHARGE:

Home Safety Checklist



When caring for young children, it is important to be safe and healthy.

Fill out this checklist to the best of your ability. If you do not get something checked off, ask an adult for help. If there is no adult, do your best and check in with an adult when he or she is home.

Home Safety Checklist

Security

- Keep home doors locked unless a safe word or password is given to you. (A safe word is like a password provided to you or others by responsible adults.)
- Access to phone with volume on.
- Practice social media safety. Do not share location or other details about children in your care.

Emergency

- Poison Control Number: 800-222-1222.
- Fill out and hang up Emergency Contact Sheet. (<https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF3495.pdf>)
- Check for working smoke alarms and carbon dioxide detector.
- Discuss tornado and fire plans.
 - Tornado shelter location:
 - Fire outdoor meeting location:

First Aid

- First-aid kit is located:
- Get clear instructions from an adult for giving children medicine (food allergies/medical/seasonal).
- Keep medicines and vitamins in a locked and/or high cabinet.

General Home Safety

- Place safety gates at the top and bottom of stairways.
- Put outlet covers on electrical outlets.
- Place mini-blind cords out of reach.
- Lock cabinets, oven, refrigerator, and windows.
- Keep cleaners stored in a locked and/or high cabinet.
- Know how to use appliances (dishwasher, microwave, stove, refrigerator/freezer, etc.).

Young Children

- Keep small objects out of children's reach and sight.
- Never leave children alone around water (bath, pool, etc.).
- Know what areas are off limits to children (parents' room, workshop, basement, etc.)
- Keep toys and soft bedding out of a baby's crib.
- Get directions on how and what to feed young children.
For example: cut grapes, hot dogs, apples, etc. into small pieces.

Items to Discuss

- Home security features.
- Knowledge of firearms in home.
- Know about animal safety in the home and outside the home.
- Check outdoor play area for hazards (pond, traffic, railroad track, lawn equipment, etc.).
- Know safety rules for outdoor activities (bike helmet, areas off limits, etc.).

Scan the QR code for more "Suddenly in Charge" tip sheets and connect with your local K-State Research and Extension office.



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