



SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN POLICY

Skokie Public Library welcomes the use of its facilities and services by children. All visitors are subject to the rules of behavior found in the Appropriate Library Use Policy. Parents and caregivers are responsible for their children's behavior regardless of whether the parent or caregiver is present with their children. As a public facility, the library takes reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of patrons while they are using the library but cannot guarantee the safety of unattended and unsupervised children. Library facilities are not licensed nor designed to provide basic care needs such as physical exercise, nutrition, and emergency care. Library staff are not responsible for the care and supervision of visitors of any age.

Children under age 8 must be supervised by a parent or other responsible caregiver 14 years or older at all times while in library facilities. "Supervised" means that the parent or caregiver is within sight of their children and is ensuring compliance with the Appropriate Library Use policy.

Children 8 years old and up may be left unsupervised in the library ONLY if they can do the following:

- Understand and follow the Appropriate Library Use Policy
- Care for themselves without assistance
- Provide library staff with their full name and parent or caregiver's phone number on request
- Refrain from unreasonably disrupting other library users or staff members

If at any time a child under age 8 (or a child over age 8 who does not meet the above criteria) is unsupervised, the following will occur:

- Staff will try to locate the parent or caregiver in the library and make sure they are able to supervise the child.
- If it is determined that the child is in the library without a caregiver, a staff member will try to contact the parent/caregiver and request that they pick up the child.
- The Skokie Police will be called to assume responsibility if the library is unsuccessful in making contact with the parent/caregiver.

When visiting the library without an adult, children ages 8 and older should have definite arrangements to be picked up from the library at closing time or in case of emergency. If any minor child is left unattended at closing, staff will first call a parent/caregiver. If the parent/caregiver cannot be reached or does not arrive within 30 minutes of closing, the police will be called to assume responsibility. Two library staff members will stay with the child inside the library until the parent/caregiver or police arrive.