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SAFETY & EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR CHILDREN



TYPES OF EMERGENCIES

- **Fire**
- **Fractures, cuts & bruises**
- **Food poisoning**
- **Accidents**
- **Drowning**
- **Molestation & abuse**





GENERAL TIPS FOR EMERGENCY

- **Develop a crisis management plan.**
 - * a fire evacuation plan for your church
 - * a communication network for informing parents and church leaders
 - * designate individuals to deal with media
 - * a referral file of community and church resources
- **Develop guidelines that protect children and the church.**



More general tips . . .



- Keep kids in groups with adult supervision.
- Raise awareness and provide ongoing training for your local church staff and volunteers.
- Provide awareness training for children.
- Verify insurance coverage with your local conference for high risk activities.



More general tips . . .

- **Ensure access to a telephone, numbers of emergency services.**
- **Have access to parents and health information for students.**

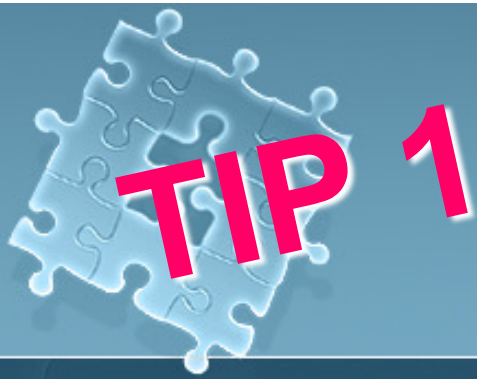


TIP 1

Outings/Fieldtrips

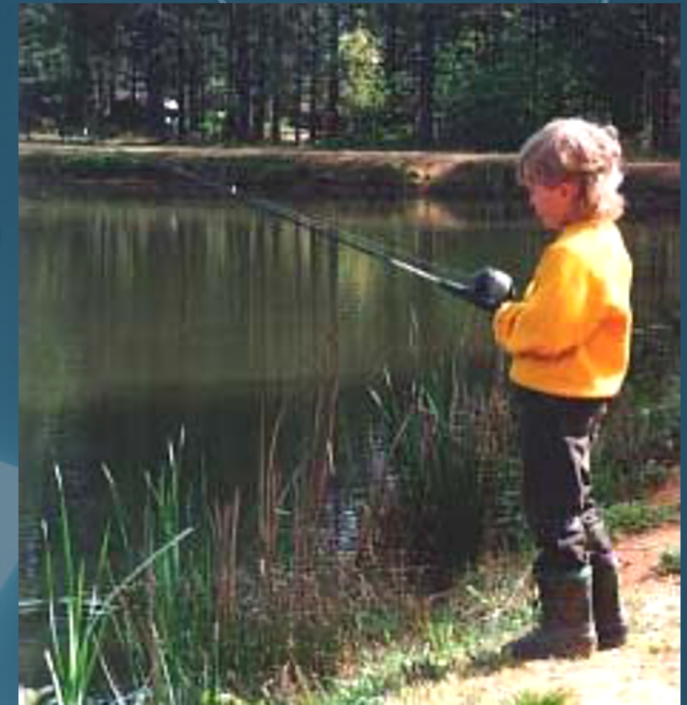
- Conduct safety walks through your church or designated activity venues to identify potential hazards, i.e. lake, wet floors, loose handrails, busy street, etc.
- Use only qualified drivers with valid license and good record.
- Do not speed when driving children.





Outings/Fieldtrips

- **Have a “buddy” system for swimming**
 - * **pair the children for activities in water**
 - * **strict instructions to be together**
 - * **have lots of volunteers to help**



TIP 2

Food and Water Safety

- **Practice good hygiene in food preparation.**
- **Ensure food is properly refrigerated.**
- **Beware of food allergies with younger children.**
- **Ensure water supply is clean.**



TIP 3

Communication with Parents



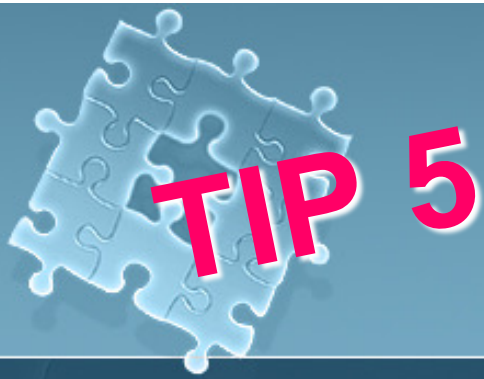
- Require written permission forms for all off campus activities with specific consent for high risk activities (ie. Water sports, snow skiing, cycling, etc.)
- Know how to access parents in case of an emergency.
- Encourage parents to provide age appropriate information about safety, sexuality to their children.

TIP 4

Supervision



- Have more volunteers to help supervise children
 - * adult/child ratio is 1:5
 - * use the youth and teens of the church
 - * get parents involved in being volunteers
- Provide code of conduct regarding kids and volunteers and between kids.



Check Supplies/Equipment

- Check supplies and materials for children's use:
 - * should be toxic free
 - * should not be too small-- danger of swallowing
 - * scissors, etc. should be suitable for children
 - * strings & ropes should be short
- Use equipment appropriate for the age





Equipment . . .

- **Check playground equipment before activities**
 - * **make sure the swings, merry-go-rounds, slides, etc. have no loose rings or screws**
 - * **try them yourself before use by children**

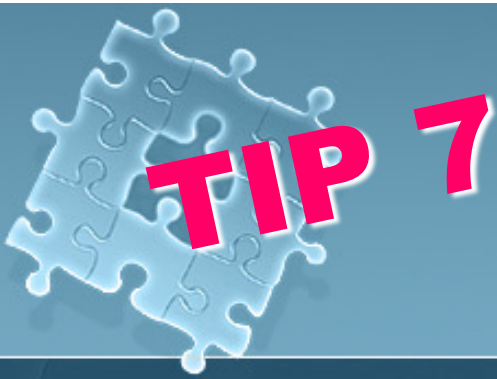


TIP 6

Staff/Volunteers Preparation



- **Provide first aid training for all staff and volunteers.**
- **Have a well stocked first aid kit accessible at all times.**
- **If on an outing, be sure the children know who is the First Aid person they could turn to for help.**



Medical Personnel

- **Provide a nurse on duty in all activities**
 - * **this is a must for all children's activities**
 - * **children should know who the person is and where to locate the nurse when needed**





SAFETY is first!

It is our obligation to ensure the safety of children under our care

