



Safer Children...

- Children should always be left in the care of a responsible adult.
- From birth to age five, children should **NEVER** be without adult supervision and **NEVER** left alone in a vehicle.
- Children under 10 should **NEVER** be left alone and **ALWAYS** play in or around their own home with adult supervision.
- Children ages 10 and older should only be left alone for brief periods with access to responsible adults in the event of an emergency.
- Children 12 and older are able to watch younger siblings for short periods of time only if they have emergency contact information and specific instructions.
- Being alone overnight should only be reserved for teens 16 and older.

Remember...

A Child is Counting on You!

To Report a Child in Need of Help:

Call Child Protective Services
24-Hour Hot Line
828•324•9111

To Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect:

Volunteer with the **Children's Advocacy & Protection Center's Prevention Council**
 1007 1st Ave. South, Conover, NC 28658
 828•465•9296
www.catawbacountycapc.org

Call the Children's Advocacy & Protection Center to schedule a presentation by our **Free Speakers Bureau**

Donate to the Council's **Earlene Sigmund Fund** to help a child with special unfunded needs



This brochure provided by a grant from the Children's Trust Fund 2005



It Only Takes A Second...

***Supervised Children Are
Safer Children***

Prevention of Child Neglect is Everyone's Job...
Will You Help?



24-Hour Hot Line: 828•324•9111

Did You Know?

Lack of close supervision of young children is the most reported form of child neglect in Catawba County!

Children left alone or with underage caretakers are in danger of life-threatening events, including:

- **Serious Falls**
- **Poisoning**
- **Drowning in tubs or pools**
(Even in water an inch deep!)
- **Exposure to firearms**
- **Strangulation**
- **Electric Shock**
- **Fires**
- **Choking**
- **Ingestion of medication**
- **Kidnapping**

A caretaker under the influence of drugs, alcohol and certain medication should **NEVER** be left to supervise children. This is the same as having **NO** supervision at all!

Vehicles...

NEVER leave a child in a vehicle alone.

Temperatures inside a parked vehicle can reach dangerous levels within minutes.

ALWAYS keep vehicle doors locked when unattended so a child cannot get in.

ALWAYS keep your keys out of a child's reach.

When loading or unloading a parked vehicle, **ALWAYS** be aware of the child's location!

ALWAYS check for children, especially sleeping infants, when leaving your vehicle.

ALWAYS pay close attention to all sides of your vehicle when backing up, making sure all children are within view.

Teach children **NEVER** to play in or around a parked vehicle.

Supervision...

MAKE TIME to talk to children – of ALL ages – about personal safety. It could save a life!

Teenagers need their freedom, but you should **ALWAYS** know where they are, who they're with and what they're doing. Even big kids **NEED** adult supervision!

Unsupervised children are at risk of sexual predators. **NEVER** trust your child will know what to do when approached by a stranger.

If you don't know where your children are, a sexual predator might.



children's
ADVOCACY & PROTECTION CENTER
OF CATAWBA COUNTY