



BABYSITTING SAFETY TIPS



Taking care of young children is a **BIG** job. A babysitter must be able to think quickly and correctly in case of an emergency.

A babysitter must make sure they have important information before the parents leave. Ask these questions:

- **How many children will you watch?**
- **Where are the parents going and when they will return?**
- **Is there a phone number where parents, relatives, or neighbors can be reached in case of an emergency?**
- **Do the children have special food or medicine needs?**
- **What time is bedtime?**
- **Where is a flashlight in case of a power failure?**

Parents should be responsible for having this information available for the babysitter:

- Address of your residence.
- Health insurance information.
- Emergency numbers posted such as **9-1-1** and poison control.
- Children's names, date of birth, medical conditions, medications, dosages of medications, and allergies.
- Have your home address clearly visible from the street and posted near the phone.

POST YOUR HOME ESCAPE PLAN

Babysitter - If caring for infants or physically challenged children, consider how to get them out of the house in case of fire.

Be sure the home has a working smoke alarm.

Know CPR; attend a childcare program.

If meals are to be cooked, remember kitchen safety rules.

In an emergency **CALL 9-1-1**

If the home has a swimming pool, be sure all gates, access doors, doggy doors and windows are closed and locked.

A babysitter should **NOT** talk on the phone when taking care of children (unless there is an emergency).

Don't open the door to strangers, even if they claim to be friends or neighbors of the family, unless parents gave prior approval.

Keep doors and windows locked.

Never leave a child unattended when in a bathtub.

Close and/or lock bathroom doors when not in use.