



Policy for Children Visiting the Library/Unattended Children

The El Dorado County Library welcomes and encourages children to use library materials, programs and services. Library patrons should expect to find a relatively quiet, respectful atmosphere in which to study, read and reflect.

The Library is open to a wide cross-section of the public in the same way as a shopping mall or a supermarket. Library staff is concerned about your child's safety but cannot substitute for parents or teachers, and are not babysitters.

We provide unrestricted Internet access to children under the age of 18 whose parent has signed the Internet Consent for Minors form.

In order to ensure that all patrons can safely enjoy the library's services, the following policies are in effect:

- Children, ages 9 and younger, must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or a responsible caregiver at least 16 years of age.
- Children and youth are expected to follow the Library Standards of Behavior. For more information please see the El Dorado County Library Standards of Behavior.
- Parents or guardian will be notified if a child or youth under the age of 18 continues to disregard the Library Standards of Behavior. The child's library privileges will be reviewed.
- For safety and emergency contact information, all unattended children, ages 10 to 14, must carry an El Dorado County Library card while at the library and on library grounds.
- If staff is aware that a child under the age of 13 is left unattended at the library after closing time, parents, caregivers, or law enforcement will be contacted.

Jeanne Amos
Library Director

Myrna Sparks
Vice-Chair, Library Commission
March 2009