

Northwest Regional Library  
Policy on Unattended Children  
and Disruptive Children

Adopted, NWRL Board, 11/17/94

The Northwest Regional Library welcomes serving children. Responsibility for the safety and welfare of the children, however, rests with the parent, guardian or their caretaker and not with NWRL Staff.

Policy for Unattended Children

Preschool - 3rd grade children shall be attended and supervised by a parent, guardian or caretaker while they are in the library. School-age children 3rd grade and up may use the library unattended, subject to appropriate behavior. Caretakers shall be 12 years of age or older.

Staff members will seek the location of parents/guardians who leave preschool-3rd grade children unattended in the library and inform them of this policy. If a child is left in the library at closing time, library staff will call the police. Under no circumstances shall a staff member take the child out of the building.

Policy on Disruptive Children

Children in the 3rd grade and up may be left unattended in the library but must conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Children who are noisy or engaging in behavior which is not appropriate to a business setting will be asked to leave the library after one warning. Disruptive children who are younger than 3rd grade students will be asked to join their parents in

the library. The parents will be reminded that the library is a business setting and that children must behave accordingly. This policy does not address children who are participating in supervised activities such as story hours or classroom visits.