

Child Safety Policy

The Turtle Lake Public Library encourages children of all ages to visit the library and hopes they will find it a warm, inviting place to be. The happiness and safety of children left alone in a public building is of serious concern. Unattended children may become frightened, anxious, or bored. Older children cannot be expected to deal with a small child who is frightened, tired, or ill. Library staff have many public duties and cannot serve as babysitters. No public place, including the library, can guarantee the safety of children.

Therefore, we ask that children under 10 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or a responsible caregiver while in the library. The library staff will attempt to contact parents of children whose safety is in doubt. If parents are unavailable, the library staff will contact the police department to provide custody.

A child of any age who is unaccompanied by a responsible adult or a caregiver for an extended period of time (more than 4 hours or over the course of mealtimes) may be approached for information concerning his/her parent's availability. All children should have the telephone number of someone who can assist them in an emergency. Due to the busy and sometimes chaotic nature of these events, library staff are unable to manage how and with whom a child leaves the library.