FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION



FSA - Keeping You Safe

How to Keep Your Children Safe During the Summer

Summer is quickly approaching and many parents have started looking for ways to keep their children active in a safe but still fun and productive way. Some parents may be working the entire summer while others may be spending majority of the break with their children. Either way safety should come first. The National Safe Kids Campaign reports that 42 percent of all injury deaths and 40 percent of all injury-related emergency room visits happen between May and August. Planning ahead for summer break is key to having a safe summer. If your child will attend a summer camp, be sure to ask questions that will ensure your child's safety. We also encourage parents to follow the tips below from the American Camp Association.

Sample questions to ask camp directors:

- What is the camp director's background?
- What training do counselors receive?
- What is the counselor-to-camper ratio?

If you plan to stay home with your children, here are some things you should consider to make sure you and your children are safe:

- Swim in designated areas supervised by lifeguards.
- Be extra attentive about sun protection, applying sunscreen lotion when appropriate.
- Mosquitoes, ticks and fleas can transmit diseases. To prevent these diseases, appropriately use and apply insect repellant.
- Observe playground equipment for potential hazards, such as rusty or broken equipment.

For more tips, please visit the <u>Florida Sheriffs Association's Crime Prevention Tips</u>.