



## Pioneer Library System Policies

# SAFETY OF CHILDREN IN THE LIBRARY

The Pioneer Library System views service to children as an important part of our mission, and welcomes children into our facilities where we provide service and programs designed especially for children.

The PLS Board and staff consider safety of children in the library a critical issue. We recognize that parents, guardians, teachers, and child care providers have primary responsibility for the safety and well-being of their children. Every effort is made to provide a safe physical facility. The library, however, is a public building open to all individuals, and unsupervised children are vulnerable.

Staff members are available to help children use library materials or services. The library is not able to provide long or short-term child care for children whose parents are in another part of the library or outside the library. Library staff cannot monitor whether or with whom a child might leave the library. Also, while in the library parents are responsible for monitoring and regulating the behavior of their children.

### **Policy:**

Children 10 and under must be supervised by a responsible parent, guardian, teacher, or adult childcare provider. At parental discretion, children 11 through 17 may use the library independently.

*Adopted by the Board of the Pioneer Library System, August 31, 1994*

*Reaffirmed by PLS Board October 31, 2000*

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