

# Home Alone Safety Tips

## Tips for Parents Considering leaving their child home alone:

The first step parents should take is to evaluate your child's "readiness"

- ☛ Are they mature enough to appropriately respond to the possible risk or emergency situations that may arise?
- ☛ Do they possess the self-confidence to handle them?
- ☛ Are they able to make responsible decisions and problem solve?



*Ask yourself the following questions to ensure that you have  
made sure your child is ready:*

- ☛ Does your child know how to place an emergency call and what is important to say?
- ☛ Does your child know to call you immediately upon their arrival at home?
- ☛ Would your child know what to do if he cut, burned or injured himself?



- ☛ Do they know where the first aid kit is?
- ☛ Is there a flashlight readily available and are the batteries fully charged? Would your child know where the spare batteries are kept and how to replace them if need be?
- ☛ Do you have a household fire extinguisher? Does your child know where to find it and how to use it?
- ☛ Is your child permitted to answer the telephone? the door? Does he know what to say?
- ☛ Would your child know how to respond to deliveries (expected or unexpected), emergency requests, unscheduled visitors?



- ☛ Would they know what to do if they arrived home and the front/back door is ajar or a window is broken?
- ☛ Does your child know *never* to lend his key to anyone without your permission?
- ☛ Do they know how to reach you or a reliable alternate contact *at all times*?
- ☛ Have you secured "personal items" that your child may be curious about exploring in your absence?
- ☛ Is your child allowed to have friends over? Is he permitted to visit them or a neighbour?

- What has your child been instructed to do if he suddenly feels ill?
- Does your child advise you of any changes of plans and know to *always check with you first?*

