

## **ROLFE PUBLIC LIBRARY UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY**

In order to provide a library environment that allows all patrons to utilize library materials and information sources in a safe and enjoyable manner, parents are responsible for the behavior of their children while in the library. The Rolfe Public Library staff and Board of Trustees hope that the children who use our library will perceive our facility as a warm, inviting, and fun place to be. Several programs are offered to make libraries inviting to children and to help them develop a love of books, reading, and libraries.

- Parents may not leave children under the age of five unattended.
- A responsible adult or mature adolescent should accompany the child under the age of five and stay with the child, unless the child is participating in a library sponsored program for their age group.
- Library staff members have many duties and cannot supervise children nor act as a substitute for daycare.
- Direct staff supervision of children is available only during library sponsored programs.
- Parents are legally responsible for their child's behavior. Disruptive people may be asked to leave.

These restrictions have been set to encourage independence for children within a controlled environment. This is a privilege that should not be abused by parents who leave children unattended for several hours in the library. The library is not here to provide child care services.

Children requiring transportation must be picked up before the library closes. It is the parent's responsibility to be aware of the library's hours and make arrangements in advance to pick up children on time. If a child is not picked up within 15 minutes of the library closing or parents cannot be located, law enforcement will be called. Library staff will not transport any child from the library to another location.

**The Rolfe Public Library assumes no responsibility for  
children left unattended on the library premises.**