



## Colorado River Indian Tribes Library/Archives

### Children Alone and/or Disruptive Behavior in the Library: Policy for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

The Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) Library/Archives welcomes all children. The CRIT Library/Archives is charged with offering services and providing an environment that is safe and comfortable for all who enter and use the facility and services in a respectful manner. Library staff members are trained to help children with library materials and services. Parents, guardians or caregivers are responsible for the safety, comfort and behavior of their children while in the library. The children and young people are expected to uphold the same standards that are expected of adults.

#### Guidelines-Child Left Unattended:

- Children under the age of eight (8) should never be left alone in any area of the library: they **MUST** be accompanied at all times by a parent, guardian or caregiver.

Library Staff members will take the actions outlined below in these or similar situations:

- Any child under the age of eight (8) is alone in the library.
- A child is alone and appears to be lost, frightened or crying in the library.
- A child is alone and doing something dangerous or another person in the library seems to be a danger to the child.

Library Staff members will evaluate the situation and use all avenues to contact the child's parent, guardian or caregiver. If staff cannot reach the parent, guardian or caregiver, they will place the child in the care of the appropriate local law enforcement agency.

#### Guideline - Unattended Child After Library Programs:

- All children who attend after-school activities or planned programs at the library must have proper transportation: they **MUST** be picked up by parent, guardian or caregiver after close of activities or program.

Library Staff members will take the actions outlined below in these or similar situations:

- Children over the age of eight (8) who have not yet been picked up before closure of the library.

Library Staff members will make all attempts to call parent, guardian or caregiver. If unable to contact individuals staff will contact the appropriate local law enforcement agency. Under no circumstances will staff transport children home in a tribal or personal vehicle.

#### Guidelines – Disruptive Behavior:

- Any child under the age of eight (8) or who is over the age, and are being disruptive as defined in the following; horse playing, bullying, abusing library property, using profanity in the library.

Library Staff members will take the actions outlined below in these or similar situations:

- The parent, guardian or caregiver will be reminded of the Library's policy and ask to control the child's behavior.
- The parent, guardian or caregiver will be given opportunity to take the child outside until behavior improves or child calms down.
- The parent, guardian or caregiver who refuses or unable to control the child; the family will be asked to leave.
- Children over the age of eight (8) who are disruptive will be reminded of the Library's policy and allowed one warning.
- Children over the age of eight (8) who continue to be disruptive after one verbal warning will be asked to leave the library for the remainder of the day.

Library Staff members will allow a child who cannot safely leave the premises on her/his own, to call a parent, guardian or caregiver for transportation. If the situation escalates between staff and parent, guardian or caregiver appropriate measures will be taken to call local law enforcement agency.