

8 Tips for Keeping Kids and Adults with Autism Safe

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1. Consider language comprehension ability and developmental age (not chronological age) when determining how much supervision a child requires at home, school, and in the community to keep him or her safe. Use this to also determine what and how to teach safety skills.

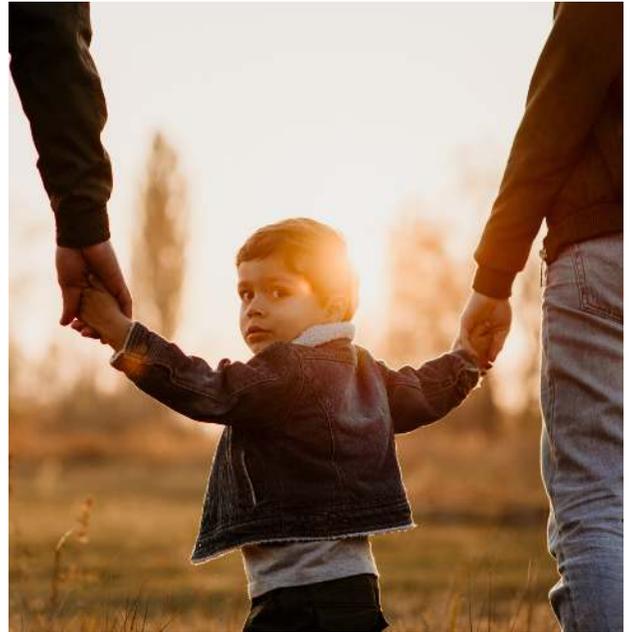
2. Teach your child to swim without floaties. This may require 1:1 swim instruction.

3. Tell your neighbors with pools to make sure their gates are locked at all times and if you have a pool or hot tub, make sure to secure those as well.

4. In addition, secure doors, turn on chimes or put bells on doors so that if a door is opened, you will know right away.

5. Get a medical alert bracelet or necklace or look into a GPS system if your child has a serious problem with wandering.

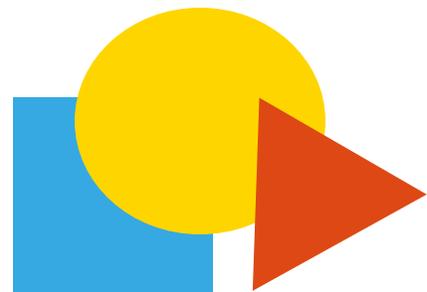
6. Teach children to be careful in parking lots and to be aware of cars when crossing streets.



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7. For teens and adults who are older than 16 (who are not at the level where driving is possible) obtain a non-driver's license identification card through the same organization where you would get a driver's license and teach the teen or adult to carry a wallet with the ID in it.

8. For older children, teens, or adults, consider using an iPod or iPhone and the "Find My iPhone App" to track location if wandering occurs.



I am Dr. Mary Barbera and it is my mission to help parents and professionals around the world. My first born son, Lucas, was diagnosed with autism a day before his 3rd birthday and since then, I have become a BCBA-D, best-selling author, and online course creator. I have also created The Barbera Method™ approach so that other parents and professionals have the road map I wish I would have back when I was feeling lost in the developmental delay and autism maze in the early days.

I have created valuable resources and the The Barbera Method™ to help teach others to implement proven, child-friendly strategies and programming within homes and schools around the world. Participants from 6 continents and over 100 countries have taken advantage of my work, and I want to help you too!