

CHILD SUPERVISION

SAFETY: The Library is a public building available for use by everyone. Because it is a place where children gather, it may attract people whose interest in children is not entirely wholesome. The safety and security of children left on their own without supervision are of serious concern to the Taneyhills Library Board of Directors, administration, and staff. For the protection and well-being of children who visit the Library, the following policy has been established:

PARENTAL SUPERVISION: The responsibility to supervise a child using the Library rests at all times with that child's parent or legal guardian. When children attend activity programs sponsored by the Library, Taneyhills Library staff are present only during the program's scheduled time of the program and only in the room or area where the program is presented. Children of all ages should be accompanied to the Library by their parent or legal guardian, or a caregiver designated by the parent or legal guardian. For their own safety and security, children 6 years old and younger must be attended by a parent or legal guardian, or a caregiver (over the age of 12) designated by the parent or legal guardian, at all times while in the Library. A parent or legal guardian or caregiver (over the age of 12) must accompany children between the ages of 7 and 11, but does not need to continually attend them so long as the parent or legal guardian or designated caregiver is nearby in the Library level to supervise behavior.

CHILDRENS LIBRARY: Children over the age of 12 who are left on their own in the Library must have a phone number where a parent, legal guardian, or designated caregiver may be reached if needed. Parents, legal guardians, or designated caregivers are responsible for their children's behavior while the children are using the Library. Children who misbehave, are disruptive, refuse to follow directions of Library staff, or prevent patrons from quiet use of the Library, may not remain in the Library. Library staff will notify the parent, legal guardian, or designated caregiver to remove the children from Library premises. If the parent, legal guardian, or designated caregiver cannot be reached, or is unable or unwilling to remove the children from the Library in a timely manner, Library staff will contact the Branson Police Department to assist. The parent, legal guardian, or caregiver will be given written notice that the children have been suspended from using the Library for a period of time appropriate to the disruption.

RETAIL STORES: Children under the age of 13 are not allowed in the Library retail stores without the supervision of a parent, legal guardian, or designated caregiver who is 16 years of age or older.