



Reasonable and Prudent Parenting: Activities to Promote Normalcy for Our Youth

The following is **not** intended to be a complete and/or exhaustive list. Rather, it is meant as a guide.

Activities such as extreme sports, water sports, and hunting should not be automatically excluded, but should be based on the youth's level of functioning.

Whenever there is doubt regarding an activity, call on the team to make a joint decision in the context of a CFTM. Please keep in mind, we want our children and youth to engage in activities that will promote their growth, development, and learning experiences. Our goal is to help them on the path to becoming successful adults. We want them to try new things, take healthy supported risks, and learn from their mistakes.

Regardless of their level of need, this is a critical piece to their development and ability to function independently. Always keep in mind, eventually they will be out there on their own. We want them to gain from these experiences while they have our full support!

- attend school events such as field trips and age- and development-appropriate afterschool activities
- get help with school if needed; tutor
- attend school sponsored or other organized trips/vacations
- age-appropriate extracurricular activities: enrichment, social, or community activities; faith-based organizations; sports, scouting, 4H, band, prom
- with the resource parent's permission, attend gatherings without direct supervision (when age appropriate), such as:
 - ballgames or other school sponsored sporting events
 - birthday parties or sleepovers
 - spending time with friends at home
 - shopping
- engage in recreational activities with foster parents, such as hunting, swimming, rafting, biking, etc.
- learn age-appropriate job skills
- find and maintain employment when at legal age
- manage their money with appropriate support and guidance
- have checking and/or savings account
- attend life skills classes and activities
- (if over 14) have annual credit checks and learn about credit
- Pursue vocational or college education

TN

Department of

Children's Services