

When was the last time you left your child alone in a car?



We hope never, but if you did, please promise to never do it again. Every year approximately 38 children die after they were unattended in a vehicle. Make it a point to lock all car doors and trunks and to **NEVER LEAVE YOUR CHILD ALONE IN A CAR.**

Follow these tips to be sure this preventable tragedy does not happen to you.

- Dial 911 immediately if you see an unattended child in a car. EMS professionals are trained to determine if a child is in trouble.
- Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle, even for one minute. Leaving a window slightly open has no effect on the temperature in the vehicle.
- Place a cell phone, PDA, purse, briefcase, gym bag or whatever is to be carried from the car on the floor in front of a child in a backseat. This forces the adult to open the back door and observe the child when they reach for their belongings.
- Set your cell phone or Blackberry reminder to be sure you dropped your child off at day care.
- Set your computer "Outlook" program to ask, "Did you drop off at daycare today?"
- Have a plan that if your child is late for daycare that you will be called within a few minutes. Be especially careful if you change your routine for dropping off children at day care.
- Teach children not to play in any vehicle.
- Lock all vehicle doors and trunk – especially at home. Cars are not playgrounds.
- Check vehicles and trunks FIRST if a child goes missing.

For more information go to

or to www.safekids.org/nlyca