

Skills for Living

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Chapter 11

Caring for Children

- In this chapter, you will learn



Topic 11-1

Being a Responsible Caregiver

- In this topic, you will learn about the responsibilities of the people who provide care for children, as well as
 - ❖ **Who are the caregivers?**
 - ❖ **Characteristics of responsible caregivers**
 - ❖ **Responsibilities of caregivers**
 - ❖ **Resources for caregivers**
 - ❖ **The role of society in protecting children's rights**

Being a Responsible Caregiver

Objectives for Topic 11-1

After studying this topic, you will be able to

- name possible caregivers for children
- list characteristics of a responsible caregiver
- describe the responsibilities of caregivers
- identify helpful resources for caregivers

Topic 11-1 Terms

❖ caregiver

❖ hot line

❖ foster care

Who Are the Caregivers?

- A *caregiver* is a person who provides care for someone else
- Caregivers provide physical care and serve as role models
- Many people may fill the role of caregiver for a child



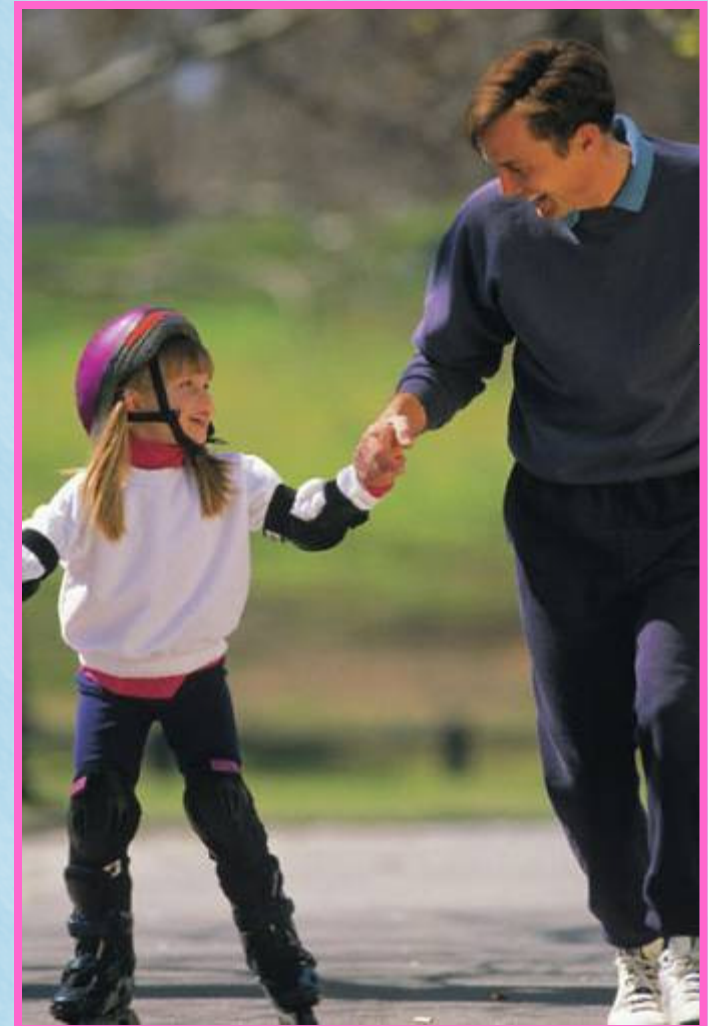
Characteristics of Responsible Caregivers

- Personal qualities
- Personal skills
- Knowledge and experience
- Good health



Personal Qualities

- Responsible caregivers
 - ❖ enjoy children
 - ❖ are patient
 - ❖ are flexible
 - ❖ are alert to children's needs
 - ❖ exercise self-control
 - ❖ are consistent
 - ❖ set good examples



Personal Skills

■ Communication

- ❖ Speak clearly to children
- ❖ Use positive statements
- ❖ Communicate well with other adults

■ Judgment

- ❖ Use decision-making skills
- ❖ Settle conflicts
- ❖ Use guidance

■ Management

- ❖ Be prepared
- ❖ Manage time

Knowledge and Experience

- All caregivers should have a basic knowledge of
 - ❖ child growth and development
 - ❖ children's needs, abilities, and interests
 - ❖ appropriate activities
- Experience is gained through
 - ❖ interaction with children
 - ❖ reading books and taking classes

Good Health



- Physical, mental, and emotional health are needed for
 - ❖ continuous physical activity throughout the day
 - ❖ mental alertness to a child's needs
 - ❖ emotional pressure of meeting responsibilities

Responsibilities of Caregivers

- Physical needs

- ❖ Food, clothing, shelter, medical care, safety

- Social needs

- ❖ Lessons in sharing and compromising; promotion of moral development

- Emotional needs

- ❖ Love; guidance for children's expression of emotions

- Intellectual needs

- ❖ Opportunities to learn and develop skills

Resources for Caregivers

- Local library
- Reliable Web sites
- Public and private agencies
- *Hot lines* (phone numbers that people can call for information or assistance)
- Support groups

The Role of Society in Protecting Children's Rights

- If parents do not meet the needs of children, the state provides protection for them
 - ❖ *Foster care* is care provided for a child who needs a temporary home
 - ❖ Laws for school attendance and child labor protect children's rights
 - ❖ Child welfare services provide food and assistance to families in need

Summary for Topic 11-1

- Many people may fill the role of caregiver for a child
- Caregivers need personal qualities, personal skills, knowledge, experience, and good health to be successful
- Responsibilities of caregivers include meeting children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs
- Resources for caregivers include libraries, hot lines, and support groups