

PARENTING TIPS

GIVING PERMISSION

Have you ever given your child permission to do something, and then later been surprised by what's involved? To help avoid this problem, you may want to teach your kids how to bring prepared a "Complete Proposal." If this is a problem in your home you may even want to post the questions on the refrigerator.

A Complete Proposal answers the following questions:

1. What do you want to do?
2. Where will it take place?
3. Who's the adult in charge and what's their phone number?
4. Who's driving?
5. When do you need to be there?
6. When and how will you return home?
7. How much will it cost?
8. How will you accomplish your other responsibilities while you are gone?

Requiring that children answer these questions before you say yes or no, can help avoid misunderstandings, but also teaches kids to count the cost and make wise decisions.

To learn more about rules that teach values, take a look at chapter 4 in the **Home Improvement** book by Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller, RN, BSN