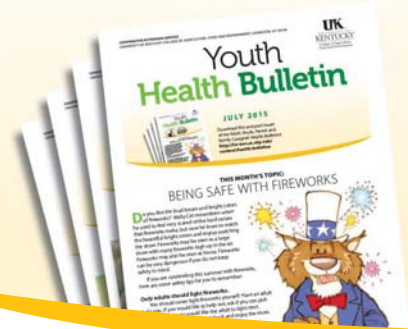


Youth Health Bulletin



MARCH 2016

Download this and past issues
of the Adult, Youth, Parent and
Family Caregiver Health Bulletins:
[http://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/
content/health-bulletins](http://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/content/health-bulletins)

Reprinted by:
K-State Research & Extension
Atchison County Office
405 Main/PO Box 109
Effingham, KS 66023
913-833-5450
www.atchison.ksu.edu

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: EMERGENCIES: USING 911



When there is an emergency, it is important to get help fast. Thankfully, emergencies do not happen often, but Wally Cat wants to make sure you know what to do if one should happen. Do you know what number to call in an emergency? That's right: 911.

There was a time when people had to find the right phone number to reach each emergency responder. There was a different number for the fire department, the police and the ambulance. Finding the right number in an emergency could be difficult. Today, no matter where you are in the United States, all you have to do is dial 911. By dialing 911, you will reach an operator (called a dispatcher), who will then link you to the person you need — whether it is the fire department, the police or an ambulance.

Continued on the back →

When calling 911, it is important to talk slowly and clearly, and to stay on the phone until the dispatcher says it is OK to hang up.

Continued from page 1

When should you call 911?

You should call 911 only when someone is very hurt or in danger, such as in some of these situations:

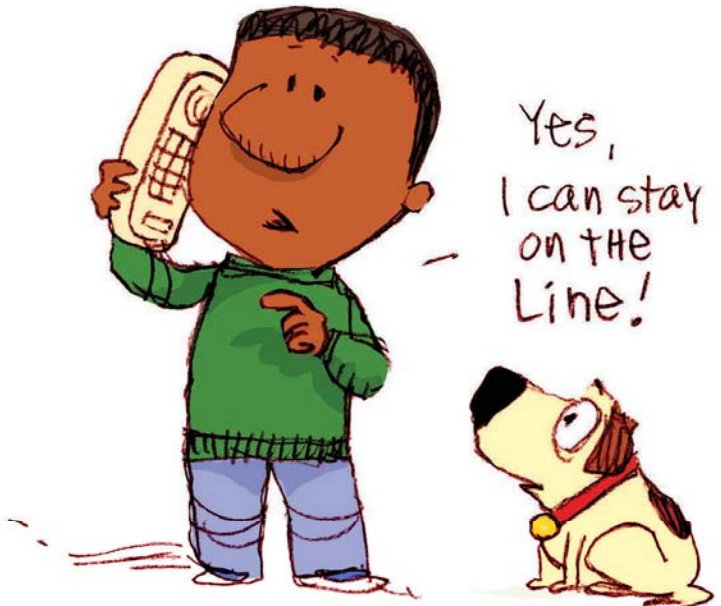
- You are in or see a car accident.
- You see a crime, such as someone stealing something or hurting another person.
- You are with someone who is having a difficult time breathing or turns blue.
- You are with someone who becomes unconscious.
- You see a house on fire.

You should not call 911 because you cannot find something you lost, your friend dares you to or just to see what would happen. Never call 911 as a joke. Also, do not call 911 for your pet. If you call when there is no real emergency, the dispatcher will not be available to other people who may need help.

Before calling 911, talk to the adult who is with you to make sure you should call 911. If you are not sure if it is a true emergency and there are no adults, you should go ahead and make the call.

What would happen if I called 911?

If you have to call 911, it is important to talk slowly and clearly. It is likely that the dispatcher will ask you many questions. Some of the questions that you may get asked include:



- What is the emergency?
- What happened?
- Who needs help?
- Where are you?
- Who is with you?

Stay on the phone!

If you have called 911, you will need to stay on the phone until the dispatcher tells you it is OK to hang up. This helps to make sure they get all the information they need to get to you fast.

Wally Cat wants you to remember that if there is an emergency, you may need to call 911. Be sure to talk to an adult about what to do in your home if there is an emergency. You may even want to practice what to say with the adult. Hopefully you never will have to use this information, but being prepared for an emergency is always a good idea.

SOURCE:

Nemours Kids Health. *How to use 911.*

Retrieved from: <http://kidshealth.org/kid/watch/er/911.html>

Youth
Health Bulletin

Written by: Nicole Peritore
Edited by: Connee Wheeler
Designed by: Rusty Manseau
Cartoon illustrations by:
Chris Ware (© University
of Kentucky HEEL program)

