

# KIDS SAFETY

We love kids and are excited to welcome them to the world of climbing! However, our gym is not a playground. Like adults, kids are expected to share the space safely with other climbers and must behave accordingly. Here are some tips to help create a safer community:

## BE A “HELICOPTER PARENT” IN THE BOULDERING AREA

It's not enough to keep an eye on your child from afar or while you're trying to get in your own climbing session. Children are often not as aware as you are of what's going on around them, so actively participate in their safety by making sure they're not walking or climbing under anyone. Keeping them within arm's reach will allow you to step in quickly if needed, and will make other climbers feel safer knowing that you're aware and involved.

## FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH GYM RULES, SAFETY, AND CLIMBING ETIQUETTE

Every gym is different, so even if your child is a seasoned gym-climber, our facility and climbing culture may be different than what they're used to. If you're unsure, the desk staff will be happy to go over the gym rules with you both.

## TAKE A CLASS

If your child wants to climb in the **roped area** and you aren't familiar with how to belay, sign up for an Intro to Climbing Class (ICC) to learn how. If you have already taken an ICC or are an experienced belayer, head to the desk to request a belay test. Once you've passed, you're free to belay your child for the rest of the day. Until you receive a laminated belay card, you'll have to get belay tested on each visit.

If your child would rather explore the **bouldering area**, you can sign up for an Intro to Bouldering Class when available, or ask the desk staff to give you a rundown of bouldering safety guidelines.

If your child is under 14 and would like to learn to belay, ask for more information on camps, teams, and private lessons.

## SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

Nobody is more instrumental in instilling safe practices in your child than you are! Demonstrate safe and courteous behavior and they will follow in your footsteps.

## THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY TIME

- Running
- Climbing, walking, or standing under other climbers
  - Pulling, playing, or swinging on ropes
  - Drawing on the walls with chalk
- Leaving children unsupervised in the climbing areas, locker rooms, or fitness areas