

First Unitarian

Playground Rules

Approved by RE Council 2-21-16

Basic information

1. First Unitarian's RE program operates on Sundays from 9:30 until 12:30, during which staff and/or volunteers monitor the playground.
2. The playground to the east of Rooms 4 and 5 were designed for children under 6 years old. The playground to the south of the RE building is designed for elementary aged children. Mixed ages may play together on this playground with careful monitoring.
3. When classes go to the playground, the RE Teacher will bring the Attendance Book for their class, so that parents may sign their children out of our care on the playground. The adults monitoring the playground should also monitor the sign-out process to be sure that children are leaving with the correct adults.
4. When children are in the playground outside of normal Sunday hours, and not during a church-sponsored special event for which childcare has been hired, children are considered to be under their parent's care and should not be left alone.

Playground Rules

1. Play safely at all times. Adults may stop any play that appears to be unsafe or inappropriate.
2. Adults should supervise and interact with the children. Do not become distracted by such things as talking with other parents, using cell phones, or other activities such as reading.
3. Treat each other respectfully, which means no unwelcome physical contact or name-calling.
4. Sand, rocks, and toys should stay on the ground. Please don't throw anything at other people.
5. Children being supervised on the playground should stay on the playground. If a child has to go to the bathroom or requires a drink, a third volunteer or RE staff member should be called upon to escort the child.

Tree climbing

Parents of children registered in R.E. will be asked to sign a Tree Climbing Permission Form that allows their children to climb trees on the R.E. playground in their absence. Children who have a permission slip on file will receive a tree sticker on their nametag. (See page 25 for a copy of the Form. Parents will receive a copy of the Playground Rules and the signed Permission Form.) Children must wear their nametag and comply with the following tree-climbing rules, or the privilege will be removed.

Any child can climb in the trees if their parent is present and assures that the child complies with our rules.

- No more than two children in a tree. Please wait your turn and don't start climbing if there are already two children in the tree.
- Closed-toe shoes must be worn- sneakers or tennis shoes. Do not climb the trees with sandals, flip-flops, jellies, or bare feet.

- No one may be lifted into the tree. Tree-climbers must be able to get up into the branches on their own, without the use of an aid.
- Tree-climbers should stay out of the upper one-third of the tree, and away from the ends of limbs.
- Tree-climbers must be able to climb down by themselves.
- Adults may direct children to come down out of the tree if they assess that children are not following the tree-climbing rules.



TREE CLIMBING PERMISSION FORM

Approved by RE Council 2-21-16

Climbing the trees on our playground has long been a rite of passage for children at First Unitarian Church. This permission slip makes parents aware of our tree-climbing rules, and gives us permission to let your children climb the trees without you present. Any

child can climb the trees if their parent is present and they comply with the following rules:

- No more than two children in a tree. Please wait your turn and don't start climbing if there are already two children in the tree.
- Closed-toe shoes must be worn- sneakers or tennis shoes. Do not climb the trees with sandals, flip-flops, jellies, or bare feet.
- No one may be lifted into the tree. Tree-climbers must be able to get up into the branches on their own, without the use of an aid.
- Tree-climbers should stay out of the upper one-third of the tree, and away from the ends of limbs.
- Tree-climbers must be able to climb down by themselves.
- Adults may direct children to come down out of the tree if they assess that children are not following the tree-climbing rules.
- Children who are registered in our R.E. program and who have a tree sticker on their nametag will be allowed to climb the trees.

I, _____, the parent or guardian of
_____, do hereby give permission for named
child to climb trees in the First Unitarian Church playground area. First Unitarian Church
will not be held responsible for any injury resulting from said activity. I understand that
this privilege can be revoked if my child does not comply with First Unitarian Church's
tree-climbing rules, which I have received a copy.

Date

Parents will receive a copy of the Playground Rules and the signed Tree Climbing Permission form.