

## **SAFETY AT AMUSEMENT AND THEME PARKS**

### **Safety Savvy**

With all the noise, people, and excitement, it's easy for families to become separated at amusement parks. Lost children are commonplace at these attractions, so good parks have well-trained staff to handle young wanderers. Tell your children that, if they become separated from you, they should go to the nearest park staff member (wearing a uniform and name tag) and ask for help. If you lose sight of your child, tell a staff person and request that security officers be notified immediately. One way to make it easier to keep track of your kids is to dress them in matching shirts and hats in an unusual color or distinctive design. It's also a good idea to attach a covered luggage tag to your child's clothing or place it in a pocket. (The cover prevents a stranger from seeing your child's name.) Include your name as well as your child's and the name and number of your hotel. Some parks issue special tags for young children; ask about this when you enter the park.

### **Safe Riding**

Don't assume that amusement rides are safe, especially in traveling carnivals where the rides must be taken down and put up at each stop. Look for an inspection notice at the entrance to the ride. If a ride looks poorly maintained, skip it. Also avoid rides that have only one operator. There should be two—one to operate the equipment and one to make sure kids are securely fastened in. Remind your kids that they must meet the height and weight requirements of a ride and must follow all rules—keeping their hands inside the cars, for example.

### **Medical Care at the Amusement Park**

If you need medical assistance, most large facilities have walk-in clinics or first-aid stations. Check the map so you'll know where to go if you need help.