

MOVING IDEAS

How To Talk To Your Kids About Moving

(NAPSA)—A move can be one of life's adventures. Most kids have some of the "natural explorer" in them. With a little encouragement and preparation children can find moving a fun experience.

Here are some tips about moving from Century 21 that are featured on www.C21SmoothMoves.com:

Telling Younger Children

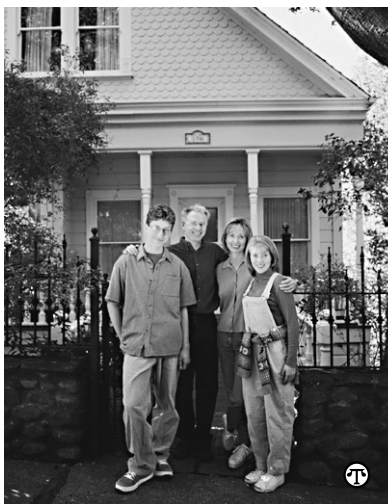
The rule of thumb is, the younger the child, the easier it is to accept a move. For preschoolers and young school-age children, family is the center of their lives. They'll be curious and may have concerns. Be prepared to answer questions. You can show them maps and pictures of the new place and describe good things in store for them. Reassure them that the important things will stay the same.

Telling Young Teens and Teens

A move is often hardest on young adolescent and teenage children. At this age, their friends are vitally important. A move means giving up these friendships and having to form new ones. Since fitting in is a prime concern at this age, they worry about what the kids will be like where they're moving. Give them lots of time to get used to the idea and to plan. Highlight benefits for them in the new place. Share move plans and timetable.

What to Expect from Younger Children

Parents can give children age appropriate tasks to sustain the excitement they feel at moving. They may also be curious. Books on moving can help, while books that focus on the feelings sparked by a move can help ease anxiety. If



Reinforcing a sense of togetherness can help your family come out of the move as a stronger family team.

children feel sad, help them say goodbye and stay in touch with important people. Younger children need more routine, so throughout the move period, aim to keep mealtimes and bed times normal.

What to Expect From Young Teens and Teens

Encourage excitement by giving them moving tasks and show your appreciation for enthusiastic support. If they are curious or anxious, ask them to surf online and find out about their new neighborhood.

If they are sad, be understanding. If they are angry, give them space and time, acknowledging their feelings. Be patient and try not to lecture or be defensive. Give your child the printable address book from www.C21SmoothMoves.com for recording vital contact information.