

During your time in care, you should have the chance to take part in activities that allow you to grow, develop, and have fun!

If YOU want to....



...CHANGE YOUR PERSONAL APPEARANCE

Your caregiver cannot force you to change your personal appearance such as your hairstyle. If you are old enough and want to change something, you and your caregiver should discuss it. Remember, if the answer is no, it is ok to ask why.



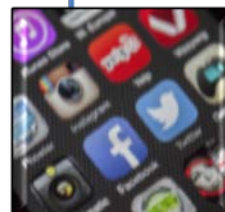
...GET A PART TIME JOB

Part-time jobs are a good way to make extra income. First, you must consider how you will get to/from work, the amount of time you will be able to work and if it will affect your schoolwork. Then, be prepared to discuss with your caregiver if you are ready for the responsibility of having a part-time job.



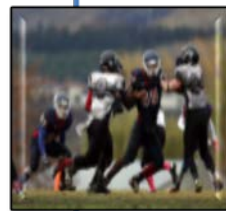
...HANG OUT WITH FRIENDS

No need for background checks, you and your caregiver can decide. Remember, safety first, sometimes there are reasons adults say no. Talk to your caregiver to make sure safety is in mind and that plans are in place, that way, you can get to YES!



...BE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Privacy & safety are important. Your caregiver will probably have this in mind when they do or do not give permission. They may want to check on what you are posting. You can use social media, but you need to talk about privacy, safety, and permissions with your caregiver.



...TAKE PART IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

You will have to decide with your caregiver if it is appropriate for you to take part. Sometimes your caregivers may need to talk to your birth parents about giving permission. Be ready to discuss how it will effect school, your part-time job and the other people that live with you.



...OPEN YOUR OWN BANK ACCOUNT

If you want to open a bank account, there may be rules based on age and it may require a caregiver's signature. If you open an account, it is a great chance to learn money management, listen and ask questions.



...OWN A CELL PHONE

You can have a phone, but your caregiver may want to discuss things like, how will you pay for it? Will you be responsible and not misuse use it? Remember owning a cell phone is a privilege and not a right. Be responsible and safe if you own one.



...GET A DRIVER'S LICENSE

If you are 16 or older, you may legally get a driver's license. However, if you are under 18, your caretaker may have to grant permission on your driver's license application. Driving is a big responsibility, talk to your caregiver. Together you can decide if you are ready to get your license.

