

known because of differences in the ability to acquire the skills needed to participate in the sport. Novice skaters should learn indoors on a flat, smooth surface. Children who ride skateboards, in-line skates, or scooters should wear helmets and other protective equipment, especially on their knees, wrists, and elbows, to prevent injury.

- Skateboards, in-line skates, and scooters should never be used near traffic or in streets. Their use should be prohibited on streets and highways. Activities that bring skateboards together (e.g., “catching a ride”) are especially dangerous.
- Some types of use, such as riding homemade ramps on hard surfaces, may be particularly hazardous.

Data from Brudvik C: Injuries caused by small wheel devices, *Prev Sci* 7:313-320, 2006; and American Academy of Pediatrics, Committee on Injury and Poison Prevention: In-line skating injuries in children and adolescents, *Pediatrics* 123:1421-2422, 2009.

Family-Centered Care

Guidance During School Years

Age 6 Years

Prepare parents to expect strong food preferences and frequent refusal of specific food items.

Prepare parents to expect an increasingly ravenous appetite.

Prepare parents for emotional reactions as child experiences erratic mood changes.

Help parents anticipate continued susceptibility to illness.

Teach injury prevention and safety, especially bicycle safety.

Encourage parents to respect child's need for privacy and to provide a separate bedroom for child, if possible.

Prepare parents for child's increasing interests outside the home.