

TIPS FOR HELPING CHILDREN WITH A MOVE

Kids require extra attention and care when planning to buy or sell a home. Making a little extra effort to include them in the buying and selling process helps them adjust more quickly to the move.

- Show the children the new home prior to moving. If this isn't possible, pictures or videos will help them visualize where they are going.
- Assure children that you won't forget their friends.
- Make a scrapbook of the old home and neighborhood.
- Throw a good-bye party. At the party, have their friends sign a t-shirt.
- Have your children write goodbye letters to their friends and enclose their new address. You may wish to call the other children's parents so they will encourage return letters.
- When packing, give them their own box. They can decorate it so they will know which one is theirs after the move.
- If you are moving far away, buy postcards when you stop so they can remember the trip.
- When unpacking, allow them to unpack their treasures then, and have them play with the boxes while you unpack.
- Start a scrapbook for their new home, including a diary of My First...
- Visit their new school, park, church, etc. Take a camera to snap pictures for the scrapbook.
- Help your children invite new friends over to the house.
- Let them choose a new favorite restaurant. This will help them feel in control of their new world.
- Encourage them to send letters about their new home to their friends.
- Involve your children in groups, sports, and activities like the ones they used to participate in.
- Remember that even if you only lived in your former home a few years, to a young child it is nearly their entire life!