

# WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

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## Just for Kids: Nevada Department of Public Safety

The juvenile crime arrest data that are reported in the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book* come from the annual report, *Crime and Justice in Nevada*, which is produced by the Nevada Department of Public Safety (NDPS) and is posted on their website. In addition to being a resource for crime statistics, the NDPS website is an educational resource for children, parents, and teachers on public safety. It contains a section titled Just for Kids which consists of about 40 links to other websites that offer educational activities/materials for young children and adolescents. Some of the posted websites are briefly discussed below.

### **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): “FBI Kids Page”**

Most of the materials/activities to educate children/youth about the FBI appear to be geared more for older youth who are able to read and to comprehend. A short history of the FBI and a special agent challenge, a quiz about the FBI, for example, are for older children. For younger children there are activities that involve concentrating, solving a puzzle, matching pictures, searching for words, etc.

### **Central Intelligence Agency (CIA): “Kids’ Page”**

Activities and information on the CIA are categorized by grade group, K-5th and 6-12; parents; and teachers. Young children, for instance, can interactively color in the CIA Coloring Book. Older children/youth are challenged to test their skills with CIA-activity-like games—analyzing aerial and photos, breaking codes, and solving puzzles. Parents and teachers can use the tips from a resource titled “Helping Them Say No to Drugs.”

### **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): “FEMA for Kids”**

The FEMA site provides educational games, stories, and activities that help children prepare for and prevent disaster damage. For example, a disaster math quiz challenges kids’ math skills using earthquake, hurricane, tornado, wild fire, winter storm, and flood scenarios. One quiz question from the winter storm quiz asks: Freezing happens at 32 degrees. If the weather forecaster says that Tuesday will be 8 degrees above freezing, what temperature will it be?

**U.S. Fire Administration (USFA): “USFA Kids”**

This site is devoted to teaching children/youth about fire safety. Instruction on home fire safety, smoke alarms, and escaping from fire are followed by short quizzes. Players who do well can qualify to become a junior fire marshal. Crossword puzzles, coloring pages, word searches, matching game and a hazard house teach children about fire safety.

**United States Search and Rescue Task Force: “Reference & Education”**

Information on many search and rescue and disaster-related topics is given on this website. The NDPS website provides links to topics on ropes and knots, volcanoes, wilderness survival, family disaster planning, blizzard safety, and dog-bite safety. For example, the ropes and knots site provides instructions on rope selection, use and care of ropes, and descriptions of different types of knots and how to make them. And, the dog-bite safety site provides statistics on dog bites each year and tips on avoiding dog bites, followed by a quiz on preventing dog bites.

Just for Kids on the Nevada Department of Public Safety website can be accessed at: <http://dps.nv.gov/JustForKids.shtml>.

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