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## 10 ITEMS EVERY VEHICLE SHOULD HAVE

Whenever you are traveling with children, you should make certain that you are prepared for almost any circumstance. Louie Delaware, *The Home Safety Guru*<sup>™</sup> and Professional Childproofer recommends that you take some time to get the right goods in your vehicle. Louie says, "As we all know, it is always a good idea to have things that will entertain your children on a trip, such as music, videos, books, games, coloring materials and the like. But you should also have things that will help you in an emergency."

Here are Top Ten Essential items to keep in every vehicle:

1. Flashlight - Always have a flashlight equipped with batteries. This should be kept in the glove compartment so it is readily available. You should change the batteries on these every year when you change the batteries in your home smoke detectors.
2. Fully Stocked First Aid Kit – This is an essential item in every car. Also, know how to use the contents before you need to use them.
3. Cell Phone with Emergency Charger – Have all of your critical numbers preprogrammed into the phone.
4. Snacks and bottled water. In winter months, it is wise to carry other goods to keep you warm and safe if you run into trouble.
5. Maps or a GPS – It very easy to get lost and having maps of where you are at and going will be very beneficial in case you do get lost.
6. Basic Tool Set – A small set which includes items like screwdrivers, wrenches, pliers, a hammer and the like will be very helpful in dealing with a minor vehicle issue.
7. Jack, Spare Tire, and a Tire Inflator (this is a unit that can be plugged into the vehicles auxiliary power jacks that can be used to pump up your tires).
8. Jumper Cables & a Towing Strap. Many times other people are willing to help you out, especially if you are traveling with young children, but they may not be carrying these sorts of goods.
9. Fire Extinguisher – These should be easily accessible.
10. Flares – These will help you let others know you need help.

Louie also recommends that you join an automobile club such as American Automobile Association that can help you out in an emergency.

As Louie says, "A little up-front preparation can make everyone's travels all the better."

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Louie Delaware, **The Home Safety Guru**<sup>™</sup>, president and founder of US Safety Pros, LLC is a Certified Child & Home Safety Professional in all aspects of home safety, from childproofing to home safety, radon testing & mitigation along with fire, carbon monoxide and barrier free construction. US Safety Pros has helped safeguard over 700 homes. For more information about Louie Delaware, go to his web site, [www.HomeSafetyGuru.com](http://www.HomeSafetyGuru.com).

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