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Danielle Johnson

Tips for Choosing a Nanny

- ANCHORS:** It's a tough decision nearly all parents have to make, finding someone to care for their child while they're working. NBC Augusta found out what you need to look for when choosing a babysitter in this Special Report.
- NBC:** They're a parent's most precious gift, and finding someone to care for your children is not an easy task. Experts say your search for the perfect sitter starts with doing your homework. Judi Wilson works for the Augusta State University's Early Childhood Development.
- JUDI WILSON:** Don't just rely on one source. You've got to check it out from beginning to end. Don't just ask one or two questions. Really investigate.
- NBC:** Wilson says word of mouth is one of the best ways to find the right caregiver for your child, but an on online search can be a big help too.
- Sittercity.com and nanny4hire are two reputable babysitter websites. For about 130-dollars, you'll have access to your prospective nanny's experience. You can check for credentials like whether they know how to perform CPR in cases of emergencies and their references. And both companies do criminal background checks on each nanny.
- Once you find the nanny or sitter that you want, its best to do a trial run before you hire. You can start by leaving your child with them for an hour and then gradually increase the time when you feel more comfortable. The connection between your child and babysitter should be an instant one.

JUDI WILSON: If your child is expressing discomfort or fear to be with that person you need to really listen to what the child is saying because that could make the difference.

NBC: A difference that could ensure your child is in good hands, when you cant be there. In north Augusta, Danielle Johnson, NBC Augusta.

ANCHORS: You should also ask lots of questions before you hire someone and go with your instinct. You can find a link to the websites Danielle's talked about on nbcaugusta.com. Just click on this story.