

THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTING A PURPOSE FOR READING

The Harris Family

The Harris family's house is the fourth house from the corner on a tree-lined street in a beautiful suburban neighborhood. The Harris's front lawn is lined with carefully maintained topiary bushes and a variety of flowering plants. The backyard has one large willow tree and three Magnolia trees. There are also many different flowering bushes planted back there. There is one main front door and one main back door to the Harris home. Both doors open with either a key or a keypad. There is another keypad to enter the home through the garage, as well. The Harrises rarely double-lock their front or back doors. They do have a built-in alarm system, but they only activate it at night before they go to sleep. The home is completely empty during the day when the Harrises are at work and the children are at school. The Harrises keep an extra door key hidden in one of the flower pots on the front porch in case the children forget their house keys.

The Harris family has a very busy yet predictable schedule. Mr. Harris leaves for work every morning at 7 AM. Mrs. Harris sees the children off on the school bus at 7:15, and is out the door by 8 AM to go to work herself. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harris get home from work at 6 PM. The Harris's children, Colin age 9, and Samantha age 12, get home from school at 3 PM. Since Samantha is now 12, they no longer need a babysitter and the kids stay home alone for from 3 to 6 every day. During those three hours none of their close neighbors are home, and the street is relatively quiet. Samantha often leaves the back door unlocked so her friend from the neighborhood can come over and play whenever she likes. The Harrises have an English Bulldog named Duke. Duke growls and barks when strangers come near the house, but he loves watermelon, and will trust anyone who gives him a piece of the fruit.

The interior of the Harris home is designed like a typical Colonial home. There is a large center entryway with a staircase leading to the second floor of the home. The first floor has a formal dining room, a sitting room, a large living room, and an eat-in kitchen. The second floor of the home has four bedrooms. The master bedroom has a bathroom connected to it, which is where Mrs. Harris keeps all of her everyday jewelry in an unlocked jewelry chest. There is a safe with a lock on it located in the laundry room in the second floor hallway, which is where the Harrises keep other valuables. The Harrises appreciate the finer things in life, and they own several valuable pieces of original artwork, as well as fine china and a full set of silver, all of which they keep in their kitchen.

The Harris family is typically very happy, and they love their home and their neighborhood. They wish that their yard had more color, and they especially like yellow flowers that bloom all summer long. Beyond that, they find that they have no complaints about their current living situation.