

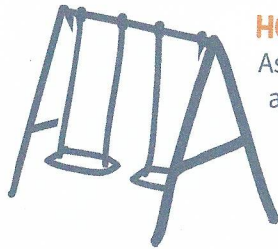
TIPS FOR PARENTS: SAFETY SCENARIOS



Safety is about more than memorizing rules. It's also about knowing **how** to act **when** it matters. Use these tips and practice scenarios to help your child learn what to do in risky situations.

TELL YOUR CHILD:

It's OK to be rude if someone is making you uncomfortable. Say "no," walk away and tell a trusted adult.



HOW TO PRACTICE:

Ask children to pretend they are at the playground. An adult approaches and asks for help. What should they do? (Say "no," and walk away. Adults shouldn't ask children for help; they should ask other adults.)

TELL YOUR CHILD:

Always go places with a friend and stay with the group. If a friend walks away from the group, tell a trusted adult right away.

HOW TO PRACTICE:

Ask children to pretend they are walking home with friends. One friend wants to leave the group. What should they do? (Remind the friend that it is safer to stay together.) If the friend still leaves, ask children what they should do. (Tell a trusted adult right away.)

TELL YOUR CHILD:

You should never approach or get into a vehicle without my permission. If someone is following you in a vehicle, turn and run in the other direction. Tell me or another trusted adult what happened right away.



HOW TO PRACTICE:

Using a parked car as a prop, have children pretend someone is driving along beside them. Have them practice refusing the ride and running in the opposite direction.

TELL YOUR CHILD:

When you are home alone, do not open the door for anyone.

HOW TO PRACTICE:

Ask children to pretend they are home alone when someone comes to the door with a delivery. Ask children what they would do. (Not answer the door; call you if the person does not go away.)

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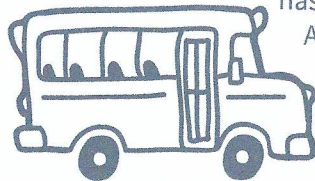


TIPS FOR PARENTS: SAFETY SCENARIOS



TELL YOUR CHILD:

It's important for me to know where you are and where you are going. If you want to change plans, check with me first.



HOW TO PRACTICE:

Ask children to pretend that one of their friends has invited them to come over after school.

Ask children how they should respond.

(I have to check with my mom/dad before changing my plans.)

TELL YOUR CHILD:

If we are separated and you need help, ask a police officer, a store clerk or a parent with children.

HOW TO PRACTICE:

When going places, point out people that children can ask for help, especially when you take them somewhere new. Let children practice interactions with these helpful people, like asking a store clerk for help finding an item. This will make it easier for children to approach them in case of an emergency.

TELL YOUR CHILD:

If someone grabs you, kick, yell and pull away.

HOW TO PRACTICE:

Adults may believe that a yelling child is misbehaving. The phrases below make it clearer that a child is asking for help. Have your children practice saying them in a strong, confident voice.

No!

Stop it!

Leave me alone!

I don't like that!

You're not my mom/dad!

TELL YOUR CHILD:

You can always tell me about anything that makes you feel sad, scared or confused.

HOW TO PRACTICE:

Help children get into the habit of sharing with you by taking the time to listen to them on a regular basis. Try to react calmly, even when children share upsetting information.

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