

Safety For Kids On Their Way To School

TALK with your kids – WALK with your kids – PRACTICE with your kids

TALK together to make a Safety Plan so your kids will know:

- They are safest staying in groups and, if they are younger, with an adult you select.
 - To always get permission from you or another adult in charge *before* they change their plan about going anywhere with anyone, whether it is a stranger or someone they know.
 - To always get your permission about where they go, who will be with them, and what they will be doing.
 - That a stranger is someone they do *not* know well, can look like anybody, and might know their name.
 - That most people are good and most strangers are good, but they do not know what someone is like just by how that person looks or acts.
 - To NOT get close to a stranger, talk to a stranger, take anything from a stranger, or go with a stranger – unless they have their adult's permission.
 - If they are old enough to talk to a stranger, to stay out of reach and not give personal information.
 - To move away toward safety and get help if someone makes them feel uncomfortable or tries to approach them.
 - How to get help in an emergency from people you've designated along their route.
 - To tell a trusted adult *every time* someone makes them feel uncomfortable or scared.
-

WALK together to determine:

- The safest route to follow on the way *to* and *from* school on foot, by bus, or by bike that will avoid isolated places, difficult streets to cross, and other hazards.
 - Where to go and who to ask for help if kids have a safety problem on route — preferably adults you have introduced them to — in a church, store, neighbor's house, bus, etc.
 - What to do if kids get lost, if they cannot stay on their route, or if someone bothers them.
 - Each child's safety readiness for going on her or his own without adult supervision.
-

PRACTICE together until you are **SURE** your kids are prepared to:

- Use their awareness to notice and avoid safety problems from people, traffic, or other possible trouble.
 - Act aware, calm, and confident in every situation.
 - Move quickly out of reach from a stranger or anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable.
 - Follow their safety plan even if a friend tries to persuade them to do otherwise.
 - Find a place with people to help them if they get lost or have to change their route.
 - Yell "NO! I NEED HELP!" and run to a safe place to get help if they feel scared.
 - Yell, pull away, hit and kick to escape from an attack.
 - Be persistent in getting help, even if adults are busy or impatient.
 - Find and use a telephone so they can call a trusted adult for help or 911 in an emergency.
-

Not sure WHAT to say or HOW to practice? Visit www.kidpower.org today.

Get Teaching Guides, Safety Comics and other safety education resources from our [Store](#) and FREE [Library](#).

Organize a Kidpower or Teenpower safety program for your [school](#).

