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NASSAU COUNTY
SPiN
A Crime Prevention Partnership
SECURITY / POLICE INFORMATION NETWORK



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Stranger Danger

Safety Tips

Talk to your children about Stranger Danger, Create a plan, Practice the plan.

Be sure you know where your children are at all times and when they are supposed to return home.

Know who your children's friends are, where they live and how to get in touch with them.

Let your child know where you are and how they can get in touch with you.

Discuss with your child who they can contact in the event of an emergency.

Discuss with your child the route they should take home or use when traveling and not change the route without notifying a parent or guardian.

Discuss safe places they can go to if a stranger approaches. i.e. businesses, neighbors, anywhere there is a group of people.

Discourage children from playing in "secret" areas, abandoned buildings, empty lots or yards.

Create a buddy system when traveling or playing. Teach them to work together to identify stranger danger situations and what their response should be. Never leave a child alone at home or in the car. Never leave children alone while the car is running.

Teach children that some people will smile and promise things in an effort to get a child to let their defenses down. Teach your children not to be fooled!

Teach children to yell "Get away from me you're not my parents".

Teach children to stay away from strangers, create a safety zone for themselves, (at least two arms lengths), run away and tell someone.

Teach children to never go near a stranger's car.

Discuss with them scenarios that they might encounter.

Discuss with your children how to identify safe adults who they can go to when they are in danger - people like police officers, firefighters, school officials.

Designate a relative or friend to pick-up the children, notify the school or event coordinator or other adult in the event a parent cannot pick up the children.

Do not place a child's name on jackets or backpacks that can be seen by strangers.

Develop a plan with your child so that if you can't pick up your children yourself, your child knows who will be picking them up.

Give your children whistles to blow on if they feel in danger. The whistles will help attract attention and may prevent a crime.

Work with schools, neighbors and local businesses to create "safe areas" where the children can go to in the event a stranger approaches.

If a stranger does approach your child tell them to remember the license plate number of the motor vehicle and to report this information to you immediately. Don't assume it was nothing and discount what your child has to tell you. Call your local police and report any suspicious activity.

Kids need to know that unfortunately Stranger Dangers sometimes appear to be the police and may have with them identification that could fool an adult. If a police officer needs to speak with your child, in the majority of these contacts the police officer will be in a fully marked squad car with the name of your local community displayed and the officer will be in uniform. The police are aware of these types of encounters and will understand the child may not want to speak with the officer for obvious reasons, especially if the officer is in an unmarked squad car and is in civilian dress.

Source: www.SafetyCops.com

For more information about Stranger Danger visit: <http://www.mychildsafety.net/>

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