

# AIM: NEW PEOPLE

## PART TWO: ADULT STRANGERS

**OUR TARGET:** Our goal is to help our kids see the difference between the real danger of strangers and kids that they simply have not talked to yet. Let's help our kids understand the safe places they should talk to adults, and that talking to classmates for the first time could mean making a new friend.



**TEAM UP!** Try these simple ideas to help your child want to talk.

**GET REAL** with yourself and your child and ask your child what they know about kidnapping. Explain to them that there are bad adults in the world that do terrible things because kids are smaller and weaker than them. Talk about how scary it is for you and your child to know these things happen. Let your child know that there is no reason to be afraid when they know what to do if an adult stranger ever makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

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**TALKING TIPS** to help you sit down and start the conversation...

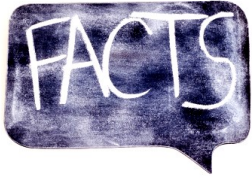
We need to teach our children how to act if an adult stranger ever:

- **SAYS** that we, the parents, have told the adult to come get them in our place.
- **ASKS** for their help, or asks them to come away somewhere to help.
- **GRABS**, touches, chases or follows.
- **OFFERS** them candy to come with them or tells them there is candy somewhere else if they'll come with them

Remember "S.A.G.O." from above, and talk with your child often about what the letters stand for so they are always on the lookout for adult strangers and dangers.

- Teach your child to yell, "I don't know you," and, "Get away from me!" as loud as they can to draw attention to the adult stranger. Even if the adult stranger did not mean any harm, all adults should understand that this is what needs to happen if a child feels uncomfortable.
- Tell your child to always run away as fast as they can to the nearest trusted adult.
- Tell your child that if they feel unsafe with an adult stranger, *this is a time when they are allowed to hit and kick*. One great way to stun someone is by stomping on the top of their foot as hard as possible.

**MAKE A FAMILY PASSWORD** in case an adult ever tries to tell your child that you sent them in your place to take them home. Your child can then ask the adult for the family password. If the adult doesn't know the password, your child can begin the steps above of yelling, running and hitting or kicking if necessary. Ask your child often what the family password is so that you both remember to use this safety action. *If you ever send an aunt, uncle or grandparent to pick up your child, teach them the family password to stay consistent and to get your child in the habit of asking for it.*



Police officers and firefighters are always safe adults to whom your children can talk.

If an adult stranger asks a child for help, the child should yell, "No!" and find a trusted adult right away to tell what happened.

There is safety in numbers. The more new friends a child makes and plays with, the safer they are!

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**Targeting More Meaningful Parental Involvement**

Leaps Correlation:  
Talking to Strangers  
For Beginners

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## PART TWO: ADULT STRANGERS

**DECISION TIME:** It's time for you and your child to **CHOOSE** to look out for adult strangers together. Have your child decide to run to a trusted adult and yell if an adult stranger makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Work together when you are in busy public places to talk about the ways to stay safe from the dangers of adult strangers.



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[selfforschools.com](http://selfforschools.com)

**GIVE IT A TRY!** A chance to practice the target skills together at home:



## GO TO THE PARK! BE AWARE OF ADULT STRANGERS

### TIPS FOR BEFORE LETTING YOUR CHILD GO PLAY:

- **FIND A SEAT** where you can always see your child while they're playing but don't just hang out there. Get up and play with your child to get a good feel for all the parts of the park. This way, you will be seen with your child by everyone there, and your child will be safer with everyone aware that your child is not at the park alone.



- **TOGETHER**, and without pointing, look around the park and quietly notice adult strangers that aren't obviously at the park with children of their own. Tell your child that any of those adults should not be people they talk to, and have them run back to you if one of these adults starts walking towards them.
- **MOST** people are nice, normal adults but we need to be prepared and we need to prepare our children by teaching them to know when to run from harm. Help your child learn to be aware of all the people around them. It's easy for our children to lose track of what is happening around them when they are busy playing and having fun.

### Stay On Target

Tips to help keep  
your child's new  
skills in action at  
home and school.

- Be sure to comfort your child and let them know that they are safe much more than they are in danger.
- We all need to be fully aware of the people around us because of possible dangers, but that does not mean that all people are bad.
- Healthy awareness is what we're aiming for, not an overwhelming fear or anxiety.

*Remember S.A.G.O. as a way to talk to your child about when they should yell and run from an adult stranger... If an adult stranger: SAYS they were sent by you; ASKS for their help or for them to come away somewhere; GRABS, touches, chases or follows; OFFERS candy or some kind of prize.*