



Talking to your kids about strangers and personal safety

Roseville Police Department

While attacks on children by strangers are rare, it's important to talk to kids about strangers and personal safety, just as you talk to them about other safety concerns. Here are some tips.

Parents:

- Know where your kids are at all times, check in with them often, know who their friends are and where they live, and call your kids to let them know if you're going to be late.
- Get to know your neighbors and your child's friends, and establish some "safe houses" where your child can go if he's frightened or needs help.
- Scout out their route to and from school with them, including potential "safe houses" along the way, and tell them to use that route. No shortcuts allowed!
- If they're older and allowed to walk to school or other places by themselves, have them go with friends and stick with the group.
- If you see anyone acting suspiciously around kids, don't wait—call 911 immediately. Write down the suspicious person's description, vehicle description and a vehicle license plate if possible.

Kids:

- It's safest to walk to and from school and other places with a friend or group of friends.
- Check in with your parents often. Always ask them before going to a friend's house, the park or the store.
- When you walk or bike around, take the headphones off and look at the cars and people around you. Don't be distracted by your friends, your I-Pod or your phone.
- If a car and driver you don't know pulls up next to you, don't go up to the car or truck. If a stranger tries to get you to come over and talk to them, don't. Walk or run away and tell your parent or other trusted adult right away.
- Never accept rides from strangers. Even if someone you know offers you a ride, call your mom or dad first and ask if it's okay.
- Don't go up to strangers, even if they offer you candy or they have a cute pet. Sometimes bad people use such things to attract kids.
- Adults should not ask kids they don't know for help with directions, finding a lost pet, or other problems. If a stranger asks for help, walk away and tell them to ask an adult, or tell them you'll find an adult to help them.
- Always tell your parent, a teacher or another trusted adult RIGHT AWAY if a stranger, or anyone else, makes you feel uncomfortable.