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Today's Lesson: Lesson 3

Today's lesson introduced the concept of **privacy**. **Privacy** is defined as keeping others from seeing, hearing, and touching things they shouldn't. Your child learned that the right to **privacy** includes everything that is part of them, such as their body, property, thoughts, and feelings. The distinction between keeping something private and keeping an **unsafe secret** was reinforced. **Privacy** is internal, and secrets are external. An **unsafe secret** is a secret that involves safety and should always be told to a trusted adult in their **Safety NETwork**. Your child learned that when **privacy** refers to their **body boundaries**, it means no one should touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable. Anything that involves inappropriate touching, seeing their private body parts, or anything that makes them feel uncomfortable or confused, is not safe. If this happens, your child needs to report it to you or an adult in their **Safety NETwork** until they get the **2 H's: heard and helped**.

Human Trafficking Prevention

The human trafficking prevention components in this lesson discuss and review concepts of **personal boundaries** and personal space. A student's **personal boundaries** involve the right to privacy and the right for the **private parts** of their body not to be seen by others. Their **personal boundaries** also include their personal space - the space around a person's body that belongs to them. The boundaries of someone's personal space are determined by how much space they need to feel safe. Students may feel that their personal space has been infringed upon by someone standing too close to them. A **personal boundary violation** occurs any time one's **personal space** is being infringed upon, any time the **private parts** of a person's body are looked at or photographed, and when someone is pressuring for personal information, especially when that infringement makes them feel threatened, afraid, or not quite right.

Caregiver Connection

In today's video, your child saw what happened when Maria read Zoe's journal without her permission and shared private information with the group. The sharing of this information – which was about a boy Zoe liked – violated her **privacy**, embarrassed her, and made her angry. Since Zoe and Maria were friends, this violation of Zoe's **privacy** also damaged her trust in Maria. Lauren steps in when Zoe reports to her what has happened and how the other students are teasing her. Your child saw how this **trusted adult** worked with each of the students in the group to help them understand why the **violation** of anyone's **privacy** is unacceptable and how they began to work toward a resolution and rebuilding trust.

Ask your child about how Zoe's situation was resolved. Ask if they understand why it was a **violation** of Zoe's **privacy** for Maria to read her journal. Ask if your child has ever had someone violate their **privacy**. What would they do if that happened? Make sure that they know it is okay to tell, and that is how they begin to access help. Telling until you are **heard and helped** is the most important strategy for staying safe.

Activities to Try at Home

You are encouraged to use the following resources with your child at home. All activities may be downloaded and printed.

• <u>Privacy</u>

Try out this interactive web-based activity to learn the vocabulary words for Lesson 1.

Let's Practice: Lesson 3 Vocabulary

Tips to Further Today's Lesson

It is very important that your child knows the difference between something kept private and keeping an **unsafe secret**. An **unsafe secret** involves safety, and it should never be kept private. Adults who harm children often tell them this is a **secret** and should not be told. This type of **secret** allows children to continue to be harmed. Sometimes children don't know who or how to tell, and that is why it is so important for them to understand that their **Safety NETwork** of trusted adults of their choosing is made up of people who will help them in any situation.

For more ways to talk to your students about staying safe, visit <u>Safer, Smarter Schools</u>. For additional resources, visit <u>Lauren's Kids</u>. To report abuse, call the <u>ChildHelp National Child Abuse Hotline</u> at 1-800-422-4453, and you will be referred to your local reporting agency.

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