

# LESSON 7

## STRANGERS



### Today's Lesson: Lesson 7

In today's lesson, your child learned about the characteristics of a **stranger**. It is important for children to understand that not all strangers seem scary. Some **strangers** look just like the **Grown-Up Buddies** we know and trust. They may seem nice and even offer a child a treat, such as candy or toys. It is important that children understand that they should only interact with a **stranger** if they have a **Grown-Up Buddy** with them.



### Human Trafficking Prevention

Students will know how to recognize a **stranger** and the importance of being with a **Grown-Up Buddy** when they are out in public. They will also know how to determine when it is okay to speak to a **stranger** and when it is not. Human trafficking prevention components are reinforced with activities for students to practice the skills they have learned to show and apply their knowledge of safety.



### Caregiver Connection

Many times we tell children not to talk to **strangers**. However, 90% of child abuse is committed by someone known to the victim and their parents. It is extremely important that we arm children with the tools necessary to listen to their **guiding voice** and how people make them feel, regardless of how someone looks or how well you know them. Children are both intuitive and trusting. Talk to your child about the adults in the community they can go to for help even if they are outside the child's **Trusted Triangle**. This may include police officers, firefighters, a mom with children, etc.

### Activities to Try at Home

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

- [Steps-to-Safety: Cyber Safety](#)
- [Awareness of Surroundings](#)
- [Create a Family Password](#)



### Tips to Further Today's Lesson

- Let your child know that if they are approached by a stranger, they should tell a **Grown-Up Buddy** immediately. If children cannot find a **Grown-Up Buddy**, they need to seek help from a police officer, firefighter, or a mom with children. Lastly, remind your child to trust their **guiding voice** and use their **Think, Feel, Act** tools.
- Create a family safety plan that includes a secret password. It is important for each family to have a secret password that only your child and you know. If you need someone to pick up your child, you can tell the person the password, and your child will be able to verify that they

are in a safe situation and with a trusted adult.

- Play the “What If?” game with your child to reinforce the concept that children should assess the safety of their surroundings and the safety of a situation. Have your child tell you if these are unsafe surroundings and situations and what tools they would use to stay safe.

**For example:**

1. What if someone asks you to help them find their dog?
2. What if someone offers you candy?
3. What if you get separated from your parents in the mall?
4. What if someone you don't know offers to help you?

For more ways to talk to your child about staying safe, visit [Safer, Smarter Families](#). For additional resources, visit [Lauren's Kids](#). To report abuse, call the [ChildHelp National Child Abuse Hotline](#) at 1-800-422-4453, and you will be referred to your local reporting agency.

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