



Teaching Life, Art & Peace

General Safety Tips

1. Stay in groups. All members of the group are responsible for each others safety.
2. Stay in public places. Avoid areas with low lighting. Know where safe zones are that you can go to. Practice looking for them when you go out.
 1. public buildings with offices, libraries, businesses, restaurants
 2. at shopping malls - look for stores that cater to adults, security stations etc..
 3. in residential areas - notice if people you know are home, cars in driveway, lights on or activity at home
 4. unfamiliar residential - well maintained homes, with activity.
3. Know that it is all right to say "NO" to adults including those who appear to be an authority, If they make you feel uncomfortable or afraid, especially if they are asking you to do something and there are no other adults with you.
4. Run away to a safe place, resist by kicking, screaming to draw attention. If you have books or packages in your hand throw them in the air while yelling "Leave me alone", "This person is trying to take me away.", or "This is not my mother / father." (30% of those cases where the child kicked and screamed escaped and 53% of those who ran away from the scene escaped.)
5. Accept no ride from anyone unless a parent has given permission in that instance. Never leave with someone to help them do something like find a pet, or if they say your parents have been in an accident. Do not give directions to an adult.
6. If you are being followed, turn and go in another direction and run to a trusted adult. (If at a shopping area that may be a cashier or mall employee, or if at school a teacher or office personnel.
7. Do not accept money or gifts from anyone - unless a parent gives permission, even if you know them. Be sure to communicate to parents about any gifts you may receive.
8. Let your parents know if you and your friends are thinking about changing your plans and be honest with them about who, what and where you will be.
9. If you find yourself in an uncomfortable situation - get out and go to a 'safety zone' and ask for help.