

The Building Blocks of Family Safety

GROUNDWORK

These activities will provide you and your older elementary school child (3-5) with the background knowledge you need to understand the safety strategies at the core of the Lauren's Kids lessons. Once, completed, move forward with the additional activities in the pack.

3RD-5TH GRADE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

TRUSTED ADULTS

Trusted adults are adults who are responsible for a child's protection. Discuss with your child the importance of having trusted adults they can turn to in any unsafe or confusing situation.

Brainstorm with your child who could be their trusted adults. Identify these adults by having your child think about the adults they could talk to about situations that make them feel scared, confused, uncomfortable, or icky.

Mom Dad
Teacher Coach
Principal Grandpa
Grandma Counselor
Uncle Aunt

Ask your child to name situations when it's important to stay close to his or her trusted adult.

Children should always stay close to their trusted adult whenever they are out in public.

If your child gets separated from their trusted adult when out in a public place, encourage them to look for someone official, like a firefighter or policeman, or a mother with children.

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: SAFETY NETWORK

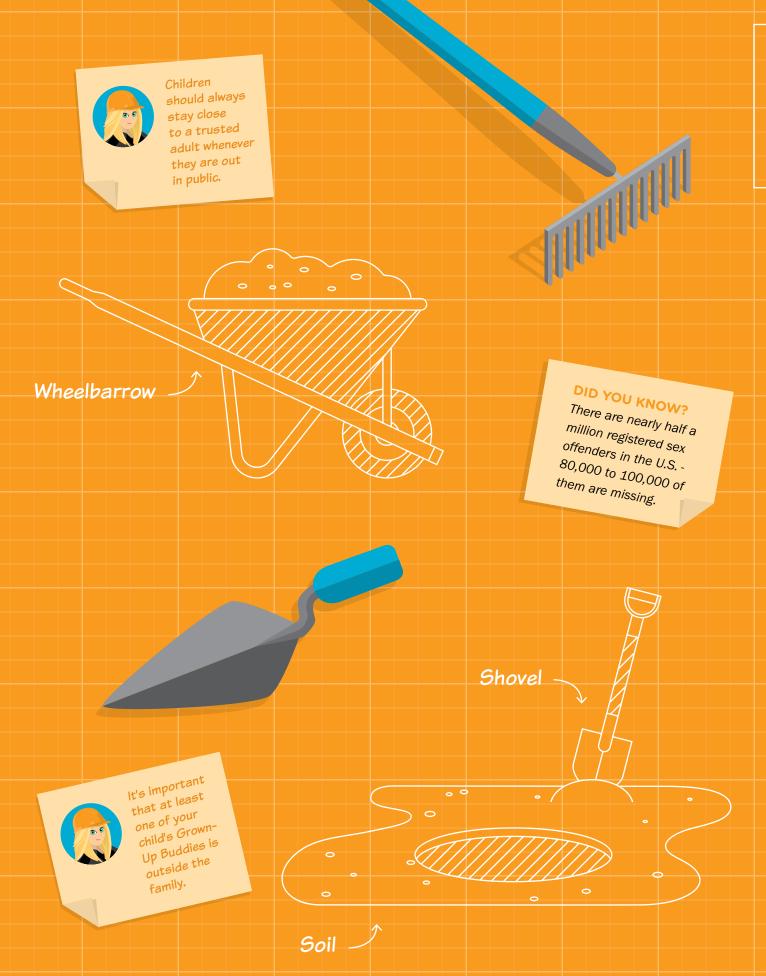


Locate the **Safety NETwork** worksheet in your child's Activity Book and walk through the steps below to complete the activity with your child.

Have your child complete their Safety NETwork chart using the trusted adults with whom

they feel most comfortable and safe. As you do this with your child, make sure the trusted adults they've selected are also people with whom you feel that your child is safe.

- It is important that at least one of your child's trusted adults in their Safety NETwork be outside the family. Each of them should be able to drive a car so that they are able to seek help for your child if necessary.
- Place your child's Safety NETwork in a prominent place in your house, like the family refrigerator, and remind your child that they can always go to these adults to talk about anything that leaves them feeling confused or unsafe.
- Your child has the power to create their Safety NETwork. They decide whom they trust enough to be part of it and they decide if someone is no longer trustworthy, or if they no longer feel close enough with that adult to turn to them for help. If your child chooses to remove someone from their Safety NETwork, make sure you know why. It is important to intervene if unsafe behaviors on the part of someone in your child's Safety NETwork can put others at risk.
- Review your child's Safety NETwork with them periodically, and be sure to help update it when necessary to make sure it's current.



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LAYING THE FOUNDATION

KINDERGARTEN-5TH GRADE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

In Laying the Foundation, we develop key safety concepts that will continue to be built upon throughout this activity pack. These concepts have been introduced through the Groundwork activities.

Involving your child in the activities in this activity pack is very important. Reinforcing the strategies and tools your child has learned will help them make safe choices and decisions. Initiate discussions with your child and help them understand that they can develop the personal power within themselves to make choices and decisions that keep them safe. Children can use that power by recognizing warning signs that alert them to unsafe situations. Keeping the lines of communication open with your child is an important step in being one of the trusted adults to whom he or she can turn.



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: DRAW A STRANGER

Locate the **Draw a Stranger** sheet in your child's Activity Book and crayons or markers. Ask your child to close their eyes and imagine what a "stranger" looks like.

Ask your child the following questions:

- · What is the stranger doing?
- What is the stranger wearing?
- Does the stranger have anything in their hands?

Now, ask your child to draw a picture of what a stranger looks like to them. Use this time to begin a conversation with your child.

- · How would you feel if you saw this stranger?
- What would you do if you saw this stranger?

You may find that your child will draw a picture of a person with masks, weapons, and dirty or tattered clothing. Your child may define a stranger by how they look. But, a stranger is anyone your child does not know well. Strangers can be clean and pretty, big or small, male or female.

Ask your child to describe their picture to you. Why did they choose to draw their stranger the way they did?



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: SPOT THE STRANGER

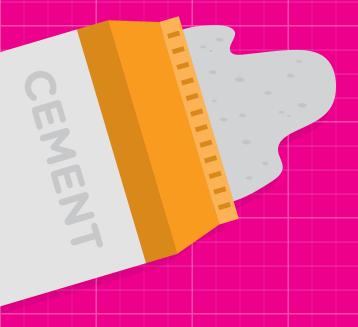
Locate the **Spot the Stranger** sheet in your child's Activity Book. Ask your child which of these 4 pictures they think is a stranger?

- Ask your child to determine which person(s) in the pictures shown is a stranger.
- Now, ask your child why they chose that person.
 Your child may say that the person looks scary, looks weird, or that they are wearing dark or messy clothing.

Reinforce to your child that **ALL** of the people on that page are strangers because your child does not know any of them! And that when deciding if someone is safe or unsafe, it's not important how a person looks, but how they make you feel.

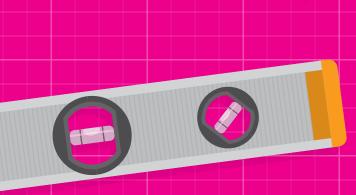
DID YOU KNOW?

1 in 5 boys are sexually abused before the age of 18.





Φ



When deciding if someone is safe, it's not important how a person looks, but how they make you feel.

The Building Blocks of Family Safety

POWER TOOLS

3RD-5TH GRADE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

In Power Tools, you will find strategies to reinforce and apply safety lessons your 3rd–5th grade child learned through previous activities. As your child becomes more independent in school and after-school activities, they will use their Power Tools to ensure their safety. You can help your child to internalize these important safety strategies.

TRUSTED ADULTS

While more independent, your older child still needs to understand the concept of having trusted adults that help keep them safe. Trusted adults help your child to act when they feel that a situation is unsafe, confusing, or just not quite right. Trusted adults are an important safety Power Tool in your child's life.

- Ask your child about the trusted adults they identified during earlier activities.
- Discuss the characteristics of a trusted adult and why they selected those adults. You may notice that they selected family members, neighbors, or even their teacher.
- Make sure that your child knows that if, at any time, they no longer feel comfortable with an adult that they have identified as one of their trusted adults, they MUST tell you. Your child may have simply grown closer to other adults, or the adult may have created an unsafe situation for your child and you must intervene.

SAFETY NETWORK

Your child learned about establishing a Safety NETwork in the Safer, Smarter Kids lessons in school or through earlier activities in this pack. To be included in a child's Safety NETwork, a trusted adult must:

- Be a person that your child can turn to when something makes them feel scared, icky, or confused.
- · Must be old enough to drive a car.
- At least one trusted adult must be outside of your child's family – a trusted neighbor, scout leader, or their teacher.



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: SAFETY NETWORK

Your child's Safety NETwork is a network of trusted adults your child can count on to help them whenever they need it.

- Review with your child the Safety NETwork, completed in school or through the Groundwork activities. Make sure that each person in your child's Safety NETwork meets the requirements described above.
- Help your child to understand that it is their decision what adults they select to include in their Safety NETwork. It is also their decision to remove someone. It is important that your child understands that they must tell you any time an adult is removed from their Safety NETwork.

- 3. Reinforce with your child the importance of telling a trusted adult in their Safety NETwork when they need help. Remind your child that it is OK to tell about any situation that makes them feel uncomfortable, unsafe, or scared, and that they should keep telling a trusted adult until they get the 2 H's: Heard and Helped! Give your child the confidence and the power to use their Safety NETwork!
- 4. If your child received Safer, Smarter Kids in their classroom and you do not have a Safety NETwork at home, create one to post by your front door. This activity can be found in your child's Activity Book.



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: KNOW YOUR SAFETY NETWORK

Locate the **Know Your Safety NETwork** activity in your child's Activity Book. It is important your child know how to reach their trusted adult when they

are in an unsafe situation. Work with your child to complete the information about their trusted adults, decorate each card, and have your child practice memorizing this important information.



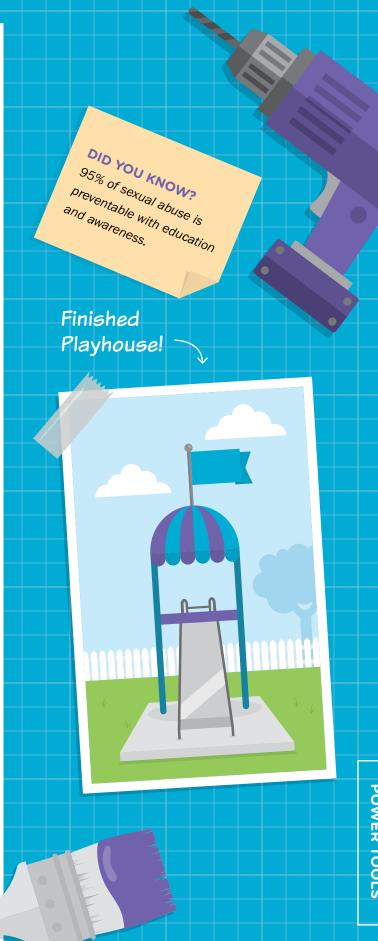
HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: SAFETY CROSSWORD

Provide your child with the Safety Crossword Puzzle activity from your child's Activity Book to help reinforce safety concepts. Answers are provided on the last page of this booklet.



HANDS-ON ACTIVITY: WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME

Provide your child with the **What This Means to Me** activity from your child's Activity Book. Answers to the Safety Check-Up section are located on the last page of this booklet.

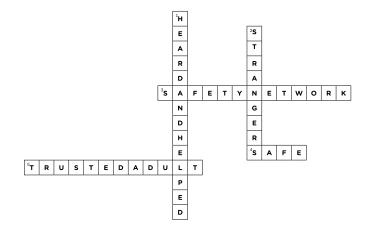


HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES ANSWER KEY

SAFETY WORDS

FWTYT(T)SFFNSXDXR D S W X C R T RGLRF URF RYFS S A A B W COEDATNKUBH WCFIEGDPT N N Q U F D E X Q E L W Y Y TUHZKTRGRL P T R P E N L R S O U L E U B A C J I W Z O F 6 S U R W M A M S A TDDTINRSW UDLUDGKF TYSKBLGTONOGNBO TRUSTEDADULTGWD

SAFETY CROSSWORD



WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME

- 1. True
- 2. Helped
- 3. You can tell the trusted adults in your Safety NETwork when you need their help to keep you safe.
- 4. False. One person in your Safety NETwork must NOT be a member of your family.
- 5. Phone number

