

Building Strong Families

Safety Role-Plays

The list below gives several situations that children might face when they are alone. Strangers don't always give up when a child gives a rehearsed response. Most children don't know what to do if a stranger persists, but children can learn to handle themselves by role-playing situations. Practicing helps children learn, so repeat the situations regularly. Make it fun!

Role-play situations

1. A woman rings the doorbell and wants to leave a package. You tell her to leave it next door, and she asks to see your mother.
2. A man in uniform comes to the door to check the water pipes. You politely tell him that you will take his company's name and phone number so your dad can make an appointment. He says it must be done today and tells you to let him in now.
3. A woman comes to the door and says that her child fell. She needs the phone to get help.
4. A man in a suit is at the door. He says he's from the Toyland factory and if you just look at the toys and answer some questions, you can have one.
5. Someone at the door says that they have a flat tire and need to use a phone.
6. A man calls, says he's your dad's friend and is in town for just a few hours.
7. A woman calls, says she is a friend from church, and needs to talk to your mother about a meeting right away. She won't hang up after you politely tell her your mom can't come to the phone. You offer to take a message.
8. A man in a car stops and calls to you as you are walking home. He says, "Excuse me, but I lost my dog. Can you help me find him?"
10. A man comes up to you and shows you a badge as you are leaving school. He says, "Your dad got sick at work. He asked me to take you home."

Note:

Some families pick a password to use when friends must meet you unexpectedly. If someone comes to pick you up or meet you, ask that person to give the family password before you go with him or her.