

## **WHAT CHILDREN SHOULD KNOW**

As soon as a child is old enough to articulate a sentence, he or she can begin the process of learning to protect him or herself against abduction and exploitation. Children should be taught all of the following safety measures and tips:

### **WHO I AM AND WHERE I LIVE**

Teach children about whom they are, including their full name, birth date, complete address, phone number (including area code), and their caregiver's full name.

### **WHAT I DO IF I AM LOST**

If you are in a public place and get lost, don't wander around. Go to a checkout counter, the security office, or the lost and found. Tell the person in charge that you are lost.

### **GOING PLACES**

Never get into a car or leave with someone without checking with your parents, teacher, babysitter or caregiver before getting into a car or going anywhere. Always make sure your caregiver knows where you are.

### **STAY AWAY**

If someone follows you on foot or in a car, stay away from him or her. You shouldn't go near the car or talk to the people inside.

### **DON'T ASSIST ADULTS**

No one should be asking you for directions, to look for a lost puppy, or to ask for assistance. Adult should ask adults, not children.

### **RUN, SCREAM, AND TELL**

If someone tries to take you away, your best defense are your legs and your voice. Yell, "I don't know this person and they're bothering me." Try to run and scream before they get too close. **CALL 911** at any phone. It's a free call; you don't need money.

### **NEVER HITCHHIKE**

Hitchhiking may put you at a risk for a dangerous situation.

### **DON'T KEEP SECRETS**

No one should ask you to keep a secret. Tell an adult you trust.

### **TELL SOMEONE YOU TRUST**

If you have a problem – any kind of problem – you can talk to your parents, a teacher, a counselor, a principal, a police officer, a fireman or a friend of the family.

### **YOU CAN CALL 911**

If you have an emergency, or are in a situation where you feel you are in danger, **CALL 911**.