

SAFETY OF CHILDREN

No 13 in a Series of Security Tips

GRIFFITHSREID

PROVIDING INTELLIGENT SECURITY SOLUTIONS

SECURITY TIPS TO TEACH ALL CHILDREN

The SAPS have provided several practical and handy tips for the safety of children...

- Children should know the contact number of at least one of the parents;
- Children should only approach marked police vehicles and uniformed police;
- They should never accept a ride from a stranger and should only approach a vehicle if they know the occupants;
- They should never accept ice cream, sweets, money or gifts from strangers;
- Children should never talk to adults they do not know. They should tell their parents if a stranger tries to befriend them;
- If the same car is parked near school or follows them on their normal walking route, they should tell their parents immediately;
- It is safer for children to walk in groups to and from schools or to the bus stop;
- Children should always be home before dark;
- Parents or a trusted grown-up should always be told where they children are going and when they will be back;
- Children should never play alone or in a secluded place;
- If a child's transport from a function does not arrive, he/she should phone the parents and stay inside the venue until reliable transport arrives;

Parents need to establish a bond of trust with their children and in an open, honest relationship inform them about child abuse dangers.

An abuse prevention programme is not a once-off event, but an ongoing process.

- ◆ Encourage children to tell their parents if a stranger tries to befriend them.
- ◆ If the same car is parked near school or follows them on their normal walking route, they should tell their parents immediately;
- ◆ Educate children that molesters and abductors look like anybody else and could be someone they know;
- ◆ Encourage children to start yelling if someone approaches them and makes them feel uncomfortable. If they feel endangered, they should yell and scream that they are being kidnapped or for somebody to call the police;
- ◆ Teach your children about good and bad touching, good and bad secrets, and good and bad feelings. You need to do this often and answer questions openly..

Contact us on Tel 27 11 786 8556 or visit us at www.griffithsonline.co.za