

Note to readers:

This Social Story™ book is intended to teach children strategies for staying safe when out in the community and around other people. Please review the information carefully, prior to reading or presenting this book to your child or student. Comments and suggestions for editing can be sent directly to the copyright holder at www.redcirclearainbow.com, via the contact page.

Thank you.



Strangers and Other People

Cover Page



What does a stranger look like?

Page 1



Does a stranger look scary like this?



No. A stranger can look nice and friendly.

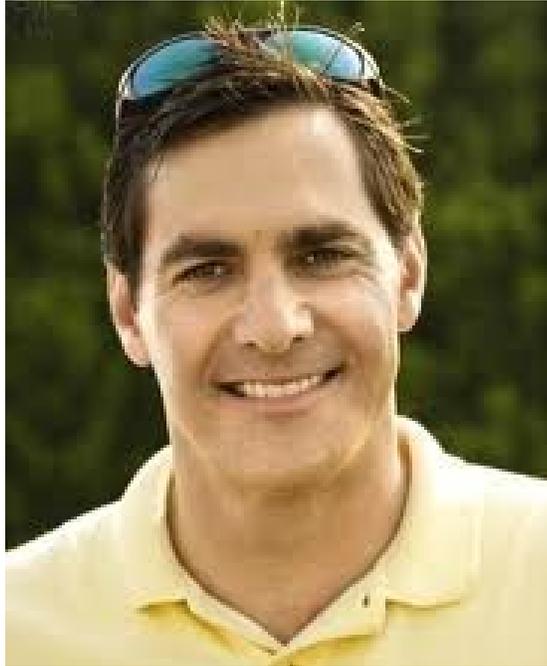


Does a stranger wear a hat and sunglasses?



If you don't know me, I'm a stranger.

Maybe, but probably not.



Are strangers always grown-up men, like this?



We're strangers to you, because you don't know us.



No. A stranger is anyone you don't know.

Known Person
Place Photo Here



Known Person
Place Photo Here



A stranger is anyone you don't know.
Can you find the strangers on this page?

Can I talk
to him?



Can I talk
to her?



Is it okay to talk to strangers?

"Mom, can I go talk to those kids over there? I want to play with them."



Sometimes it is. But only after you ask Mom or Dad and they say it is okay.



"Yes, but stay on this side of the slide, where I can see you."

The kids on the playground are strangers, but Mom said it is okay to talk to them, and Mom will be watching.

"Dad, can I show those people my new toy?"



"No."



This boy really wanted to show off his new toy to some people he doesn't know. But, Dad said "No".



What if Mom and Dad aren't around, and a stranger talks to you?



Scream "No!" as loud as you can, and run away to a safe grown-up or a group of people or kids. Tell right away.

It doesn't matter what the stranger is saying. Grownups shouldn't talk to kids that don't know them. If it is a bad stranger, they won't tell the truth anyway. So, it doesn't matter what they are saying. You don't have to be polite to a stranger. It is your job to run away!



"Come to our house to play. We have cool toys. Come on, let's go!"

What if Mom and Dad aren't around and a kid you don't know asks you to go somewhere?



"No thanks."

You say, "No thanks." Then go home and tell Mom or Dad or another safe grown-up.

Who is a safe grownup?

A safe grownup can be your Mom and Dad, your teacher, or a police officer. A safe grownup can also be a store clerk, a security guard, or a mom with kids.



Known Person
Place Photo Here



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What if you're out somewhere and you get separated from Mom or Dad, and you don't see a police officer? What should you do?

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When you get separated from the grownup you're with, it's called being "lost".

When you are lost, should you walk around and look for your Mom or Dad, or whatever grownup you are with?



No. You should stay as close as possible to where you are. If you walk around, you will just get more and more lost, and it will get harder for your Mom or Dad or the grownup you are with to find you.



You should walk into the nearest store and go straight to the cash register and talk to a grownup who works in that store. The grownup will be wearing an ID badge with their name on it. The store person has been trained to help lost kids.

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When you are lost, it is okay to cut in line. You do not have to wait your turn. You must tell the store person right away.

Page 23



"Hello,
this is
Security."



"Hello security? This is Miss Lee.
I have a lost child in my store at
the front counter."

"I will send a guard
over right away."

The store person has been trained to help lost kids. She might call a Security Person.



"Please report to
Miss Lee's front
counter to help a
lost child."



"I'll be right there."



This is what a security guard looks like.

They wear uniforms, but they are not police officers. You should not go anywhere with a security guard. The security guard should wait with you in the store. You should wait in the store with the store person and security guard until the grownup you are with comes to get you.

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Even though the store person and the security guard are strangers, it is okay to talk to them and to tell them your name, who you're with and where you were the last time you saw them. You can also tell them your mom or dad's telephone number if you know it.

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"I'm lost."



"It's okay. I can help.
What's your name?
Who are you with?
Where was the last
place you saw them?"

What should you do if you're lost and there is no store?

You should stay where you are and look around for a security guard. If you see one, tell the security guard that you are lost, your name, who you are with, and where you last saw them.

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"My name's
Amanda. I am
with my
babysitter,
Aida. The last
place I saw her
was by the
swings."



The security guard will help find your mom or dad, or the grownup you are with.

Page 29

"I'm lost."



"It's okay. I can help.
What's your name?
Who are you with?
Where was the last
place you saw them."

What should you do if you're lost and there is no store, no police officer, and no security guard?

Stay where you are, and look around for a mom with kids. Tell the mom that you are lost, your name, who you are with, and where you saw them last.

Page 30

"My name's
Amanda. I
am with my
babysitter,
Aida. We
were by the
swings."



The mom will help find your mom or dad, or whatever grownup you were with. Even though this mom is a stranger, it is okay to talk to her if you are lost.

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Learning about strangers is important, and if you follow the rules about strangers, you can stay safe.

Let's see if you can remember the rules about strangers, like when it's okay to talk to strangers and when it's not.

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These people are having fun with balloon animals, and you really want to run over there and ask the man to make you one too. What should you do?

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You're playing outside, and a stranger with a dog slows down to show you the dog. You really want to stay and look at the dog. What should you do?

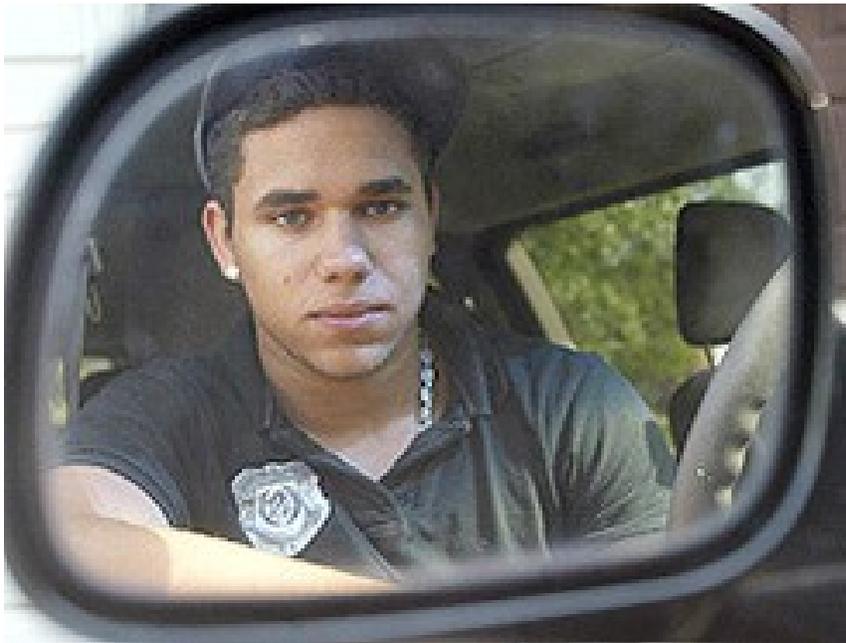
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You are playing outside, and a man stops his car and starts talking to you. What should you do?

Does it matter what the man is saying?

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A stranger who looks like a police officer tells you to get in his car. What should you do?

Does it matter what he is saying?

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Some kids you don't know ask you to come and play. They look like they are having lots of fun and you want to play too. What should you do?

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The world is full of people. You don't know most of them, so most of them are strangers to you. Of all the strangers in the world, most are good, but some are bad. In order to stay away from the bad ones, you have to follow the rules about strangers all the time, with everybody.

We learn what we practice. It's good to practice staying safe. Sometimes when you're at a store, look around and think about what you would do, where you would go, and who you would talk to if you were lost.



Sometimes, when you're playing outside, think about what you would do, where you would go, and who you would talk to if a person you don't know tried to talk to you, or was coming toward you.



Mom and Dad will be happy to practice the stranger rules with you. Make sure you ask them if you have any questions about what you should do, where you should go, or who you should talk to.

The End

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