

SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN



1. Don't talk to strangers.
2. Stay in a group when walking down the street.
3. Stay a safe distance away from strangers. Don't get close enough to let a stranger touch you.
4. If a stranger approaches you in a car, run in the opposite direction.
5. Always take someone with you when you go into a public restroom.
6. Stay with an adult when you go shopping.
7. Never give out personal information when you are on the computer.
8. Be sure you know who you are talking to when you are in a chatroom on the computer.
9. Never tell anyone on the telephone that you are home alone.

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CHARTER SPONSORS

City of Kissimmee
Kissimmee Civic Center
Kissimmee Moose Lodge #2056
Kissimmee Police Department
Kissimmee Utility Authority
Osceola County Sheriff's Office
Osceola Mental Health/
Park Place Behavioral Health Care
Osceola News-Gazette
Osceola Square Mall
St. Cloud Police Department
The School District of Osceola County, Florida

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Orange Blossom Lodge #80, F & AM
OUC, *The Reliable One*
Osceola Community Service Council
Sprint-Strong Communications
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OSCEOLA CHILDREN CAMPAIGN



FREE TO BE FREE

CHILD ABDUCTION
PREVENTION AND ESCAPE



Art Work By Tyler Zwick, Mill Creek Elementary School
1998 Osceola County Grand Prize Winner

SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS



1. Be sure your child knows their full name, address & phone number
2. Teach your child how to dial 911 in case of an emergency & how to ask for help.
3. Practice role playing with your child. Use possible situations that could happen when you are not around
4. Do not put your child's name on clothing, backpacks or any items which are visible to strangers.
5. Teach your child to scream "I don't know you" or "You are not My Mother / Father" if a stranger attempts to force your child to accompany them.
6. Keep a current photo of your child. Having a DNA portfolio card is helpful also.
7. Remind your child to tell you where they are going and what time they will return if they will not be with you.

FREE TO BE FREE

"Free to be FREE" was established in 1997 after the Osceola County, Florida community experienced the abduction & death of Shelby Cox, age 4, by her eighteen year old neighbor. Shelby's family was devastated by the tragic event and asked for the creation of a community program that would keep our children safe from strangers and predators.

The 'Free to be FREE' program is implemented in all of Osceola County, Florida public schools and a number of private & charter schools. Students view the "Free to be Free" video which contains lessons about staying safe when confronted by strangers & dangerous situations. After viewing the video, class discussions are held to give students the opportunity to give opinions, thoughts & suggestions about staying safe around strangers. A poster contest is held & the winning participants & their families are invited to attend the awards ceremony. A "Free to be FREE" Community Awareness Day is held yearly. During the event, parents receive free DNA portfolios for their children. They also have the opportunity to have their children fingerprinted & videotaped.

Children must have at least one person who believes in them. It could be you. you never know when a little love & support will plant a small seed of hope.

Marian Wright Edelman (1940 -)

Contact: Teresa Beverly
803 Emmett Street, Kissimmee, Fl
407-847-3131

ORGANIZATIONS

FDLE Missing Children Information



Clearinghouse
1-888-356-4774

www.fdle.state.fl.us/missing_children

Jimmy Ryce Center for Victims of
Predatory Abductions, Inc.

1-800-546-7923

www.jimmyryce.org



Kissimmee Police Department
(407)-846-3333(non-emergency)

www.kissimmee.org/departments/pd/pd.asp

MissingChildren Help Center, Inc.

1-800-872-5437

www.800usakids.org

National Center for Missing &
Exploited Children

1-800-843-5678

www.missingkids.com

Osceola County Sheriff's Office

(407)-348-2222

(non emergency)

www.osceolasheriff.org

