



Summer Safety Tips for Children



Baltimore County Public Schools

Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools

- Always **CHECK FIRST** with your parents, guardian, or the other trusted adult in charge before you go anywhere or do anything. Be sure to **CHECK IN** regularly with your parents, guardian, or a trusted adult when you're not with them.
- Always **TAKE A FRIEND** with you when playing or going anywhere. It's safer and more fun.
- Don't be tricked by people who offer you special treats or gifts. Never accept anything from anyone without your parents' or guardian's permission.
- Stay **SAFER** when you're home alone by keeping the door locked. Do not open the door to talk to anyone who stops by unless the person is a trusted family friend or relative, you feel comfortable being alone with that person, and the visit has been pre-approved by your parents or guardian. Never tell anyone who calls that you're home by yourself. Have a neighbor or trusted adult you can call if you're scared or there's an emergency.
- Never go into a public restroom by yourself.
- Never go alone to malls, movies, video arcades, or parks. Take a friend with you, and always **CHECK FIRST** with your parents or guardian to make sure it's okay.
- Be careful when you play. Stay away from pools, canals, and other bodies of water unless you are with a trusted adult. Don't play near busy streets or deserted areas, and never take shortcuts unless you have your parents' or guardian's permission.
- Don't get into a car or go near a car with anyone in it unless you are with your parents, guardian, or a trusted adult. Never take a ride from anyone without **CHECKING FIRST** with your parents or guardian.
- Be careful playing or riding your bicycle as it gets dark. Sometimes it is difficult for drivers to see you. Wear reflectors and protective clothing if your parents or guardian say you can play outside after dark.
- Don't be afraid to say **NO** and **GET AWAY** from any situation that makes you feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused.

Adapted from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's Website