## **Crime Prevention Tips**

## STRANGER DANGER

Who is a Stranger?

Anyone you don't know is a stranger. Even people who look nice are strangers unless your parents say they are safe. Safe strangers are people you don't know, but can trust to ask for help. Police officers, fire fighters, and Block Parents are examples of safe strangers. If you are at a store, you can ask someone who works there for help. What should you yell to draw attention?

- Stranger, Stranger, Stranger!
- Fire, Fire, Fire!
- Help, Help, Help!
- This is **not** my mother or father!

What can you as parents do to help keep your kids safe?

- Discuss with your child what to do if lost. Pre-arrange a meeting place.
- Don't allow your child to go to a public washroom alone.
- Reinforce that not all "bad" people look bad. Very normal looking people can also be "bad people."
- Teach your child emergency numbers as well as your home and work numbers and addresses
- Have a secret password, so your child knows it is safe to go with another adult.
- Walk your neighborhood with your child and learn their usual routes. Point out potential hazards to your child and explain the dangers.
- Know where your child is and what time they will be home.
- Keep a list of their friends' phone numbers and addresses.



## Mishawaka Police Department

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