



February 4, 2010

Dear Families,

As we continue with our Safety unit, we are watching the second half of the *Safe Side: Stranger Safety* video in grades Kindergarten through third this week. Some classes were not able to watch the first part of the video last week so they will see it in its entirety this week. If you are at school this week look for the Safe Side posters and let your child tell you about them. The second part of the video focuses on how “Don’t Knows” and “Kinda Knows” can sometimes play tricks to get children alone such as

- Asking a child to help find a pet
- Offering money, candy or other treats
- Telling a child that their parent wants them to go with them and sometimes say the parent is hurt.

Students learn they should talk with their parents about a “Safe Side Adult” list -a list of all the people that parents trust. If someone comes to pick them up who is not on the list, children should call a ”Safe Side Adult” to check it out.

Another topic discussed was the imaginary “Safe Side Circle.” This is a super-safe space all around a child that is large enough for him/her to see anyone approach if they get too close. We talked about how children need to run and find their “Safe Side Adult” if a “Don’t Know” or a “Kinda Know” gets inside their “Safe Side Circle.”

The fourth and fifth grade classes are discussing being home alone and the responsibilities of that. This will include the Always Ask First Rule. The students played an interactive game called YOU ARE IN CHARGE. You can check it out at http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/games/in_charge_flash.html

Next week we will be discussing the Always Ask First Rule in kindergarten through third grade. Fourth/fifth grade will watch part 1 of *The Safe Side Internet Safety* video, which includes using the Internet with adult permission, sharing personal information, and “Hot tips” on e-mail.

As always, I encourage you to contact me with any questions you may have!

Sincerely,

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