

This book belongs to:

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 Recognize
React 
 **REPORT**[®]

A Community Resource
for Protecting Children &
Preventing Child Abuse

CAS 
Child Advocacy Services

www.childadv.net

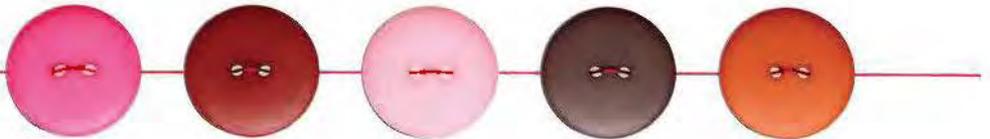
It is everyone's responsibility to report child abuse.

Department of Children and Family Services • 1-855-452-5437

Adult Information

Different families may have different levels of knowledge about child abuse and neglect. This resource can help families talk to children about recognizing and preventing child abuse and neglect in the community. Here are some topics that you can talk about with your children while working on the activity sections together.

- **Set** boundaries about what is ok and not ok.
- **Become** aware of the types of abuse and how to recognize them.
- **Instruct** who can be trusted to talk to and what can be done for protection.



Honor the children in your community by
Exploring situations that don't seem right and
Listening to children in order to
Prevent child abuse and neglect



Who Can I Talk To?



Many people around you are there for you to talk to. It is important to know who you can talk to if something happens that you don't like or is not ok with you.

Fill in the figures with people who you trust the most to listen to you. Make sure at least one trusted person is an adult.



Name:



Name:



Name:

To report child abuse or neglect, call the Department of Children and Family Services at 1-855-4LA-KIDS and your local law enforcement.

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5 Steps to Protecting Children from Sexual Abuse

The *5 Steps to Protecting Our Children™* form the foundation of Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children® sexual abuse prevention program.

By applying these steps, we can better prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.



LEARN THE FACTS

1 in 10 children are sexually abused before age 18. Over 90% of them know their abuser.

MINIMIZE OPPORTUNITY

Decrease the risk of abuse by eliminating or reducing isolated one-on-one situations.

TALK ABOUT IT

Have age-appropriate, open conversations about our bodies, sex, and boundaries.

RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS

Signs of abuse aren't always obvious. They are there, but you have to know what to look for.

REACT RESPONSIBLY

How you react matters. Understand how to react to risky behavior, boundary violations, or suspicions and when to make a report.

TYPES OF ABUSE

Match the type of abuse to the description of the child.

1 Neglect

2 Physical Abuse

3 Sexual Abuse

4 Emotional Abuse



COLOR ME!

A. Sam came to school today with bruises all over his body.

B. Someone tried to touch Laura's private parts and it made her uncomfortable.

C. Emma cries every night because her parents yell at her and call her names.

D. Bobby is always hungry when he comes to school because he says there is no food at his house.

Answers: 1d, 2a, 3b, 4c

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Keeping Kids Safe In A Digital World

- **APPLY** rules from real life to online activity. When a child wants to play with a friend, we tell them where they can go, what they can do, and how long they can be there. Setting these boundaries for the internet will give kids a safer experience!
- **ESTABLISH** parental controls.
- **CHECK** privacy settings.
- **MONITOR** children's online activity.
- **REMIND** children that "friends" they meet online are strangers, and who they say they are might not be true! Children should never meet an online friend in person.
- **TEACH** your child to be nice online! No one likes to be teased or made fun of. Things we say online are permanent and can hurt others.

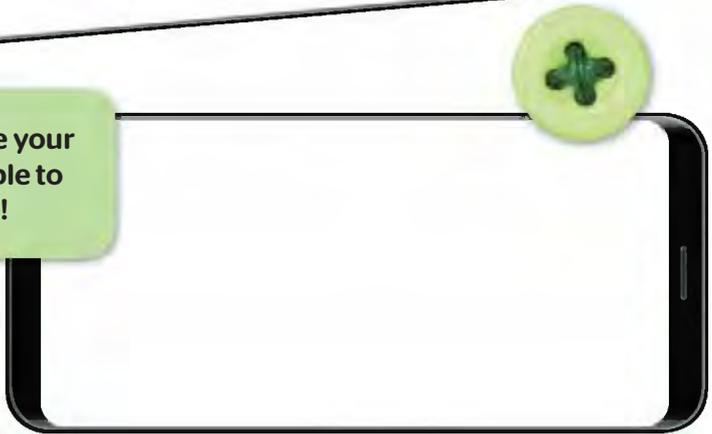


ONLINE SAFETY

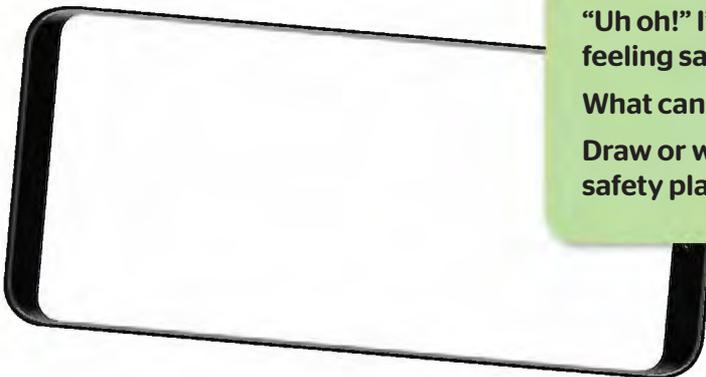
Draw or write your favorite place(s) to visit online!



Draw or write your favorite people to talk to online!



“Uh oh!” I’m not feeling safe!
What can you do?
Draw or write your safety plan.



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MYTH OR FACT?

Myth Busters

I must have proof that a child has been abused or neglected to make a report.

Myth. In most states, only a reasonable suspicion is required to make a report.

If I witness child abuse, it is someone else's responsibility to react.

Myth. Anyone suspecting or witnessing child abuse has a responsibility to report it.

I may report child abuse anonymously and not identify myself.

Fact. You can make a report without giving your name.

If I report child abuse, I do not have to be involved in the investigation.

Fact. You do not have to be involved in the investigation after a report is made, but it is helpful if the reporter does participate.

My report may protect a child's life.

Fact. Your reaction in reporting child abuse can make a lasting difference by breaking the cycle of abuse and neglect.

What information do I need to report child abuse or neglect?

The child

- » Name, age, address and/or phone number

The suspected abuser - if known

- » Name and relationship to child

The suspected abuser - if unknown

- » Gather identifying information, i.e. license plate number

The type of abuse suspected

- » A brief description of the suspected abuse
- » Any knowledge of past abuse

Any information that you can provide may be helpful for a child's safety.

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Prevention starts at home...

FROM BIRTH

- Start talking early
- Use proper names for body parts

AS THEY GROW

- Ask children not to keep secrets
- Use "comfortable" and "uncomfortable"
- Talk to children about privacy
- Allow children to have boundaries
- Encourage questions
- Model respect for others' boundaries

MORE INDEPENDENT

- Use everyday opportunities
- Teach children about "gut" instinct
- Teach children how they can avoid isolation with others
- Encourage healthy relationships
- Recognize risky social situations

RELATIONSHIP

Emotional connection
+ consistent involvement =
a protective bond

Every time the door opens, use the opportunity
TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT STAYING SAFE.

RESILIENCE

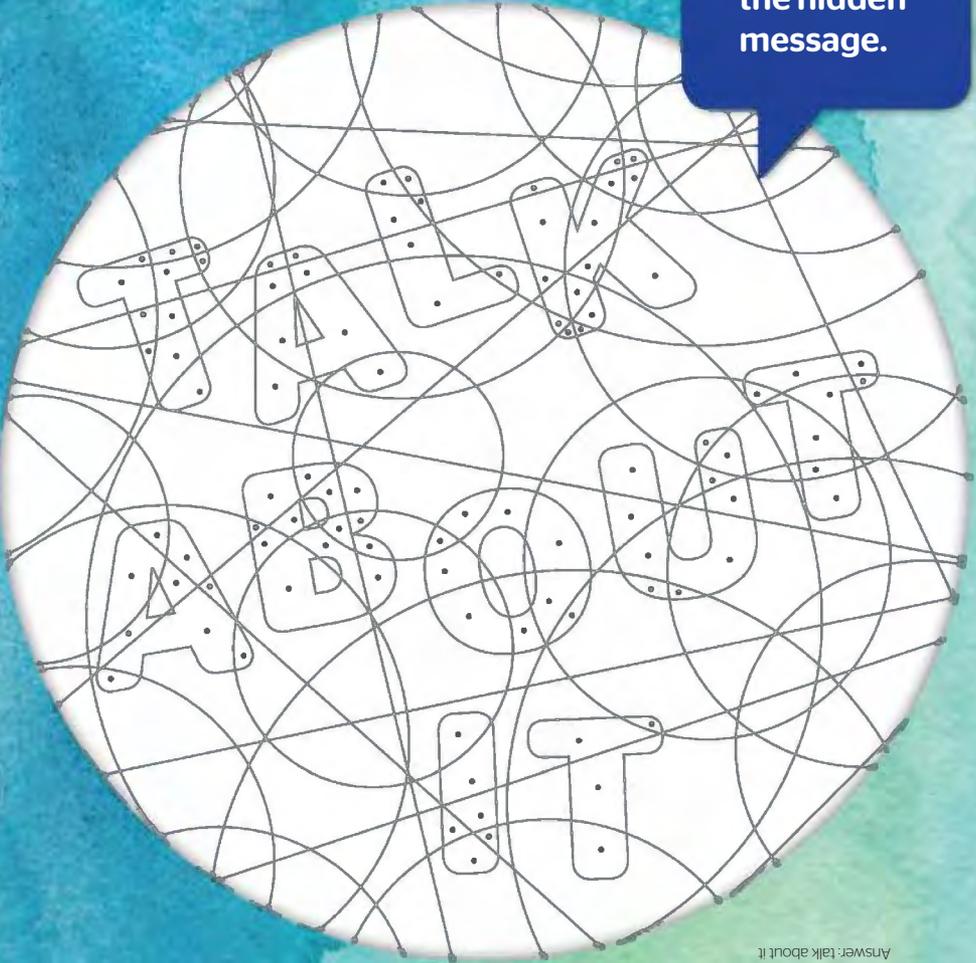
Self-esteem
Having choices
Feeling supported

For more information on talking with your children about safety from sexual abuse, visit www.D2L.org.

Spread the

WORD!

Color the dots to find the hidden message.



Answer: talk about it

To report child abuse or neglect, call the Department of Children and Family Services at 1-855-4LA-KIDS and your local law enforcement.

Child Advocacy Services advocates and serves children and families through a variety of programs, prevention education trainings, community resources, and ways to volunteer.

For further information, please visit our website, www.childadv.net, or call us at **1-800-798-1575**.

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Louisiana

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RESOURCES:

Darkness to Light
www.D2L.org

Department of Children
and Family Services
www.dcf.louisiana.gov

Prevent Child Abuse
Louisiana
www.pcal.org

Child Advocacy Services
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