

Stranger Danger!¹

University Extension²

WHAT MAKES A PERSON A STRANGER?

A stranger is a person you do not know. Most strangers are nice, but bad strangers and good strangers look and act the same, so avoid all strangers.

SAY "NO" AND GO...

- Don't talk to strangers or accept anything from them. If a stranger talks to you or tries to give you something, say "No" and go. Tell a teacher or your parents.
- If a stranger in a car asks you to come over to the car or asks if you want a ride, say "No" and go. Tell your parents or a teacher right away.
- If an adult stranger wants you to join in playing a game, say "No" and go. Tell your parents or a teacher.

WHEN YOU'RE WALKING HOME...

- Walk with other kids.
- Look out for strange people and strange vehicles.
- Say "No" and go if a stranger talks to you. Go to a neighbor's house or a business if the stranger keeps on bothering you.

WHEN YOU GET HOME...

- Make sure your house looks right before you go in.
- If you think someone may have broken into your house or it is on fire, go to a neighbor's house and ask for help.
- Work out a schedule with your parents so you can call them when you get home.

IF YOU'RE LOCKED OUT...

- Have your parents leave a spare key with a neighbor they trust so you can get it if you're locked out.
- Never leave a key near the front door.

TELEPHONE RINGS...

Talk to your parents about whether or not you should answer the phone when they are gone. If you have to answer the phone:

- Always be nice.
- Always take a message--get the caller's name and phone number.
- Never tell the caller your name, phone number or address.
- Never tell them you are home alone.
- If the caller asks for your phone number, hang up.

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2. University Extension, University of Missouri-Columbia, Agricultural Engineering Department.

- If the same person calls you more than once, call your parents or contact person.
- If the caller tries to play a joke on you or tease you, hang up and call your parents.

DOOR BELL RINGS...

Talk to your parents about whether or not you should answer the door when they are gone. If they say it is OK to answer the door always do the following:

- Keep the door locked all the time.
- Look through the window or peephole to see who is there.
- Don't tell them you are home alone.
- Talk to them through the locked door to find out what they want.
- Don't let anyone in to use the telephone or bathroom.
- Tell them "No".
- Don't let anyone in, even if you know them, unless your parents said it was OK for them to be in the house when they are not there.
- If someone comes to deliver something or fix something, but your parents did not tell you they were coming, say your parents are busy and can't be disturbed.
- If the person at the door will not go away, call the police. You do not have to talk to them just because they are knocking on the door.