Going To and From School More Safely

Millions of kids ride a bike, take the bus or walk to school every day. Help get them to and from school more safely by following this checklist.

- Review the four rules of personal safety with your children. Remind them to:
  - Check first with you or the adult in charge before going anywhere, helping anyone, accepting anything or getting into a car.
  - Take a friend when going places or playing outside.
  - Tell people "NO" if they try to touch you or hurt you. It's OK for you to stand up for yourself.
  - Tell a trusted adult if anything makes you feel sad, scared or confused.

- If your younger children take the bus, wait with them or make sure they're supervised by someone you trust at the bus stop.
- Teach your children to recognize the tricks someone may use to abduct them such as asking for help or offering them a ride. Tell them to never approach a car without getting your permission first.
- Encourage your children to kick, scream and make a scene if anyone tries to take them.
- Instruct your children to get away as quickly as possible if someone is following them. If they are being followed by someone in a car, teach them to walk in the opposite direction from the one in which the car is driving.
- Be sure your children's school has up-to-date emergency contact information. Learn about their pick-up procedures so only those you've authorized can pick up your children.
- Make sure your children know how to contact you in case of an emergency.

For more information about child safety, visit MissingKids.com

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