

A NOTE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS/ROLE MODELS

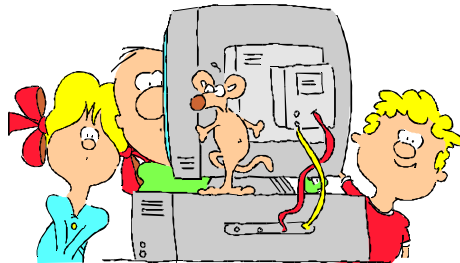
Children, younger than age 5, rarely understand the "stranger" concept. Children up to age 5 should be under constant, adult supervision because they are unable to protect themselves from strangers. However, by age 5, children start to venture out from that close supervision as they attend school.

This brochure will help you to ask your child questions about strangers to help you start non-threatening conversation with your child about the subject. Go beyond this brochure and find books that teach children about strangers through stories. Use "teachable moments" to remind them of the lessons learned in this brochure and in books you have read together. Do this often to reinforce what they have learned.

Children often hear news reports and hear adults discussing strangers. Your interest and discussions will help them feel better prepared and less threatened. Call Henrico County Police Division at 501-5933 or 501-4838 to schedule a free stranger program in your school or community.



Call the Henrico County Police Division Special Services Unit to schedule a free safety program.
501-5933 or 501-4838



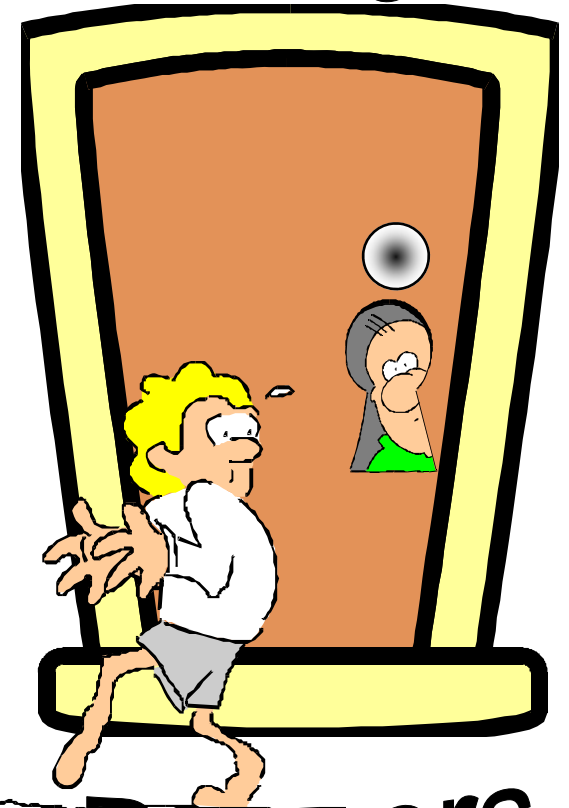
There also are some web sites you can visit with your child to learn more about child safety. On these web sites you can learn about child safety through games and puzzles. They are:

<http://www.Mcgruff.org>

<http://www.safekids.com>

Summer 2012/Media Relations/CRD

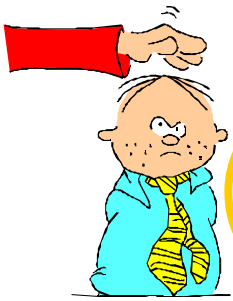
Stranger



Dangers



Henrico County
Division of Police
Non-Emergency—501-5000
Emergency Only—911



CAN YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT STRANGERS?

What is a stranger? _____

Where might you see a stranger? _____

Are all strangers bad? YES NO

How can you tell the difference between good and bad strangers? _____

Do you know some of the tricks strangers use to get kids to stop and talk? _____

What would you do if a stranger tried to get you to stop and talk? _____

Write down questions you have about strangers. _____

COMPARE YOUR ANSWERS

A STRANGER IS ...

Anyone you don't know. A stranger can be a man or woman, young or old. They do not have monster faces and do not wear raggedy old clothes or masks. They look just like regular people.

WHERE ARE STRANGERS?

Strangers are everywhere. We see lots of strangers every day. You see them in cars as you ride to school or to the store. You see them walking their dogs or jogging in your neighborhood. You could even have a stranger come to your door. Remember! Strangers are just people that you don't know.



NOT ALL STRANGERS ARE BAD.

Most strangers are good people just like you. They would never dream of hurting you. **BUT**, there are a few strangers who might hurt you. These strangers will try very hard to trick you into coming closer or going someplace with them.

LEARN ABOUT STRANGERS

GOOD AND BAD STRANGERS:

There are many more good strangers than bad strangers. The problem is that bad strangers try to make you think they are very good people. They smile and might even try to give you things to make you trust them.



STRANGER TRICKS:

Bad strangers might try to give you candy, toys, or even money to get you to come closer.

Sometimes they use pets because they know kids like animals. They might even try to say that your parents are hurt or have asked them to pick you up. These are all tricks to get you to go with them.

RUN AND TELL!

If anyone you don't know wants to talk to you, give you things, or wants you to go someplace with them, **RUN AND TELL!** Don't stop to say, "No, thank you." **RUN AND TELL** the closest grown-up that you know and trust. Just **RUN AND TELL!** Don't worry about being rude. **Just RUN AND TELL!**

