

# Stranger Danger



It is important for students of all ages to plan and practise assertive responses, behaviours and actions that protect and promote health, safety and well-being. Use the story of Toby and the Misunderstood Crocodile to teach students about Stranger Danger but stress that not all strangers have sharp teeth and claws. Many can be friendly and offer treats.

The most important message from the story is that Toby should not have walked off by himself without telling an adult where he was going and checking that it was safe for him to go there. Secondly, he should not have engaged in conversations with a stranger. Instead he should have followed the simple

## No, Go, Yell, Tell Formula

- NO** - Not listened to the crocodile;
- GO** - Backed away and returned to his parents;
- YELL** - Called out loudly to alert others as soon as he realised he was lost;
- TELL** - Told an adult what had happened to him.

To practice how to respond appropriately students should role play how they can politely tell an adult they don't want to talk. They must avoid providing personal information and be aware of the warning signs of Stranger danger.

## Role play suggestions

1. A stranger is looking for a lost dog and asks for help. Students can tell the stranger that they haven't seen any lost dogs or cats and then return to their adult. They must never go with the stranger to help them look for the animal.
2. A stranger appears to have hurt themselves and asks for help. The student can offer to get another adult to assist them.
3. A stranger is on the swings at the park and starts talking to them. Students can be polite and chat about neutral topics such as the weather or trees in the park while making sure they can see their adult. They must never go with the stranger.
4. A stranger starts talking to them while in the line at the supermarket. They can be polite and chat about neutral topics such as the items they are purchasing. They must not go with the stranger or accept things from them.
5. A stranger talks to them while they are waiting for their parents at an after school activity when the child adult is not present. They can say that they do not talk to strangers" and return to the activity supervisor. They should tell their adult what happened when they arrive.