



PRETTY LOADED

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THE FOLLOWING SAFETY TIPS ARE SIMPLE, AND CAN BE TAUGHT TO YOUR CHILD. SOME RECOMMENDATIONS ARE AGE DEPENDENT.

Mall and Event Safety:

- **Take a “Safety Selfie” before you go to a Mall or crowded event, so you have a recent photo of what the child is wearing and what they look like.**
- **Discuss a location to meet should you get split up.** Make sure they know the name of the location and have them repeat the name to you. The location needs to be easily understood by others. Examples: fish tank, service desk, or play park.
- **You need to know where your child is at all times if he/she is under the age of eight.** Do not trust that your child will stay by you just because you told them. Children get easily distracted and it is normal for them to wander off. It’s hard to shop and watch at the same time, so you may need someone else along to help.
- **Teach your child that if they are lost to find a woman and preferably a woman who has children with her.**
- **Inform your child to NEVER go outside or to a different location with a stranger** even if the stranger says they know where the parents are located.
- **Your child needs to know your first and last name.**
- **Educate your child to scream,** “He is not my Dad, or she is not my Mom!”, if someone tries to take him/her outside or to a different location. Most onlookers will not stop to help a child if they are only yelling, “No, no!”, because it appears to be a disciplinary problem.
- **Go to an employee or service desk to have them announce a description of your child that is missing over the intercom.** It is very important to know exactly what your child is wearing. Do not wait too long to do this.
- **Dress your child in brightly colored clothing so it is easy to spot them.**
- **Be very careful and at an arms-length with little ones around elevators because the doors can close before you can get to them.**
- **Put a harness on your very young child if the location is crowded.**
- **Invest in a wearable GPS tracker for your child. A list of trackers is located here.**
- **Do not let your child use the bathroom alone if they are under the age of 8. Have someone go with them or take them into a family restroom.**
- **Ask others to yell out the description of your child if he/she is lost. Example: We are looking for a three-year old boy, blonde hair, red shirt, jeans, and blue shoes. Repeat it over and over so the whole crowd will assist in looking.**

Get your situational awareness and personal safety training at www.prettyloaded.org