



Back to School Safety Tips

#1 Establish a “Safe word”

If you don't want your child getting in the car with a stranger, establish “safe word” that only your family and close friends know. It could be pickle, ninja or unicorn. It doesn't matter. If a stranger tries to approach your child, they can ask that person for the “safe word” before trusting them.

Online resource: <http://www.moneyconsciousmommy.com/2017/08/protect-your-kids-with-safe-word.html?m=1>

#2 Recognize the signs of bullying

Bullying can come in all shapes and sizes. It's important to recognize the signs of bullying such as fear of going to school, loss of friends and change in school performance. Early intervention will help your child avoid any physical or emotional abuse that could have been prevented.

Online resource: <https://onceamonthmeals.com/blog/helpful-hints/when-the-bully-comes-knocking-on-your-door/amp/>

#3 Teach your child bus safety

Always crossing in front of the bus and holding on the handrails when exiting may seem common sense, but they are important rules that your child should follow. Help prevent any accidents with a little education.

Online resource: http://www.momjunction.com/articles/bicycle-safety-rules-for-kids_00366430/

#4 Teach about bike safety

If your child rides their bike to school, make sure they understand what is expected of them. Always wear a helmet, look both ways before cross streets and ride with the flow of traffic.

Online resource: http://www.momjunction.com/articles/bicycle-safety-rules-for-kids_00366430/

#5 Help your child memorize your address and phone number

You never know if and when your child might get lost. Teaching them these two simple things can be the difference between finding your child and losing them forever.

Online resource: <http://lastingthumbprints.com/8-ways-to-teach-children-their-address-and-phone-number/>

#6 Educate about sexual abuse

Unfortunately, there are sexual predators everywhere, including in the school systems. Your child needs to understand that no one is allowed to touch them if they don't want them to.

Online resource: http://www.scarymommy.com/educate-2-empower-sexual-abuse-prevention-poster/?utm_source=FB

#7 Create rules for when your child sees pornography

Pornography is rampant throughout the world now and children are being introduced to it at an early age. Teach your child what to do if they see pornography at school and work with your child's teacher on the safe reporting procedures within the school.

Online resource: <https://protectyoungminds.org/2016/08/18/kids-need-safe-reporting/>

