

School Bus Stop Security

STUDENT HANDOUT

The Dangers are REAL

School bus stops are usually very safe places for students, but in today's world, dangers do exist. Sadly, violence, gang activity and abductions have happened at or near school bus stops. And, the potential exists for a terrorist act involving school buses.

It is important for you to be aware of possible dangers at school bus stops, and to know what to do if you see someone or something that seems suspicious.

The information in this handout is not intended to frighten you. Hopefully, the **3 STEPS TO SAFETY** will help you stay safe at and near your bus stop.

3 STEPS TO SAFETY

STEP #1: BE AWARE OF DANGERS

First, be aware that dangers can exist at or near the school bus stop: violence; abductions; bullying; hijacking

STEP #2: KNOW WHAT TO WATCH FOR

- Suspicious people; odd behavior
- Strangers hanging around the stop
- Strangers offering you a ride
- Someone taking pictures
- Unusual packages left at the stop; packages with wires or leaking fluid
- Weapons
- Students or others talking about weapons or violence

STEP #3: KNOW WHAT TO DO

If you see someone or something suspicious: Tell your school bus drivers; they have been trained to know what to do in an emergency — follow their directions in an emergency. Or, tell a trusted adult — your parents, teacher, principal, etc.



Remember: *YOU are an important part of safety at the school bus stop. You can play an active role in keeping you and your fellow students safe.*

The Information on the next page will help you know what to do if there is danger at or near the bus stop.



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WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR:

WHAT TO DO:



A STRANGER AT THE BUS STOP

- Tell your bus driver or attendant immediately.
- Describe the person and the activity as best as you can.
- Note the day and the time and if you've seen the person there before.



A STRANGER TRYING TO TALK TO YOU

- Move away from the person.
- Tell your bus driver or another adult.

DO NOT talk with the person!



A STRANGER OFFERING YOU A RIDE

- Get away quickly.
- Tell a trusted person or your school bus driver or attendant right away.

DO NOT get into the stranger's car!



SOMEONE TAKING PICTURES near the bus stop

- Tell your school bus driver or attendant immediately.

DO NOT get off the bus!



GANG MEMBERS OR SIGNS OF GANG ACTIVITY

- Tell your school bus driver immediately.

DO NOT get off the bus!



BULLYING: Students threatening, shoving, hitting or hurting you or others, stealing lunches, backpacks, books, etc.

- Tell the driver, school official, teacher or your parents.

DO NOT say anything directly to the bully!



UNUSUAL PACKAGES OR WEAPONS: Hidden, with or without wires or leaking fluid

- Leave it where you found it.
- Tell your bus driver or attendant immediately.

DO NOT touch the package!

DO NOT use your cell phone! It could set off a bomb!



A WEAPON on the bus, or in a student's (or someone else's) possession; or you hear a student talking about weapons, or hurting someone

- Quietly tell the bus driver or attendant immediately.
- Tell your parents.
- Tell a school official.

DO NOT confront the person!



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