

Have you shared with your kids how to make a *SPLASH* this summer?

S

Swimsuits cover private parts, which we call by their correct names.

P

Private parts are only to be touched or seen by trusted grown-ups helping to keep your body clean and healthy with your permission.

L

Listen to lessons from trusted grown-ups about your safety.

A

Always tell a trusted grown-up if someone asks to see or shows you private parts.

S

Secrets and surprises are different. No one should ask you to keep a secret forever.

H

Hugs and kisses are your choice; remember that your body belongs to you and you can say "No".



Make a SPLASH this summer by sharing these important messages about body safety and safe touch with your child.

Educate and Empower Your Child

Child safety is an adult responsibility.

- Teach children the correct names for body parts, including their private parts starting as early as possible. Avoid slang terms for private parts.
- Make sure your child knows the difference between “safe” and “unsafe” touches. No one should ask to see or touch the private parts of a child’s body, except a medical provider or trusted adult who is helping them bathe or use the restroom. No one should show them pictures of private parts. Teach them if those things occur, tell a trusted adult. Teach children that once they can bathe and use the restroom on their own, they should not accept such help from adults or older children.
- Teach children that it’s okay for them to say “no” if they don’t want to hug or kiss someone, including family, and always respect their decision.
- Educate children about the difference between a secret and a surprise. A surprise can be fun, and eventually kids are able to talk about it. A secret can often make children feel sad or afraid and no secret should stay secret forever.

Safe Caregivers & Safe Situations

Take steps to surround children with safe caregivers in a safe environment.

- Abusers often become friendly with potential victims and their families, earning trust and gaining time alone with children. Observe your child with others, and listen to your gut. If you feel uncomfortable with the way an adult is interacting with your child, step in.
- Ask your babysitter for background checks, including criminal and child abuse/neglect checks. To learn more go to FaceltAbuse.org/Background-Checks
- Check that all of your child’s programs require background checks and personal interviews; provide training on child abuse prevention, recognition, and reporting; avoid one-on-one time with your child without supervision; and permit unannounced visits by parents. This should apply to all adults-- including volunteers-- who work with children.
- Monitor children’s internet and smartphone use. Offenders have been known to use electronic communication to lure children into physical contact.

