

# Safety

**SAFETY** means freedom from harm or danger.

## LESSON 1

Read the meaning of **SAFETY**. Read: **This week we will focus on how important showing responsibility and good judgment can be in keeping us safe. For example, a car's safety tips include one major factor – buckling up. However, you have to take the responsibility and good judgment to take the time to actually buckle your seat belt. It is your responsibility.** Discuss the following statistics with students to help show the need for performing the simple action of buckling up.

- Motor vehicle crashes are the number one killer of children between the ages of 3 - 14. (NHTSA 2004 Traffic Safety Sheet)
  - Car crashes kill more children each year than all childhood diseases combined.
  - Most fatal crashes occur at speeds less than 40 mph and within 25 miles of home. (In other words, you do not have to be on a major highway).
- Ask students to write a personal response to one of these facts. Students may choose to respond to the fact that surprised them the most.

[School/Home Link](#) Tell students to share some interesting statistics about car accidents with a family member and to discuss the importance of buckling up.

## LESSON 2

Review the meaning of **SAFETY**. Read: **Today we will talk about personal safety. Personal safety tips can help keep you stay safe from other people. Although most people we meet are good, we do have to be aware that some people have bad intentions. Research tells us that many cases of kidnapping and abduction do NOT come from total strangers. Many abductions are carried out by people who are familiar to us.** Put students in small groups. Have them role-play being a news reporter. The assignment is to do an interview with a classmate about what their reaction should be if a stranger comes up to them. Each group should report to the class.

[School/Home Link](#) Tell students to share with a family member the concept of abductions. Tell them to discuss what to do in a situation in which they would need help.

## LESSON 3

Review the definition of **SAFETY**. Share with students that in August of 2002 President Bush held a conference to raise awareness about children's safety. President Bush said, "One of the most important things that a mom or dad can do is talk to your children, very specifically, and rehearse what they can say or do if they feel threatened." Define the word threatened. Take time to role-play and rehearse with students what they can do and say when threatened. You can begin rehearsing using the following situation as one example: *–If any grown-up or stranger asks you for directions or help; get a trusted adult to help.* Rehearse as many situations as time allows.

[School/Home Link](#) Tell students to discuss times when a child may feel threatened by something or someone and think of ways to avoid situations that are potentially dangerous.

## LESSON 4

Review the definition of **SAFETY**. Discuss technology and the use of the Internet with students. Although Internet has made life so much easier in many ways, it has really complicated safety and law enforcement. Although it is possible to trace things on the Internet, it is very hard. Remind students that they should never give out personal information in chat rooms or bulletin boards on the computer, never send pictures of themselves to people met on the computer, tell someone if someone writes something on the computer that makes them uncomfortable in any way, and to never agree to meet in person anyone met on the computer. Share with students the following fact taken from **Safety.com**: *Data collected by the FBI Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and other agencies, documents only 13 cases of Internet abductions in 1996. This figure exploded to more than 800 in 1999. The data wasn't in yet for 2006, though that figure was expected to increase since more and more people have become connected.* Allow students time to talk about these growing numbers. Instruct students to calculate the approximate number of abductions based on the assumption that the annual increase would be the same as in 1999. What would the number be in 2008?

[School/Home Link](#) Tell students to discuss this crisis with a family member and think of ways to increase the awareness of the importance of Internet safety.

## LESSON 5

Review the definition of **SAFETY**. Ask students if they know what the word "bully" means. Explain to students that a bully is a person who teases, hurts, or threatens smaller or weaker people. Bullying is wrong and **must not** be accepted. Explain to students that reporting bullying is NOT tattling. Unfortunately, we must know and understand what bullying is in order to protect ourselves against bullies. Have the class brainstorm a list of different TV programs they watch. Ask whether those programs have examples of bullying behavior. Make a list of examples as you discuss with students.

[School/Home Link](#) Tell students to talk about a show that they watch together with family. Have them point out the bullying behavior to a family member.

## Louisiana Content Standards and Grade Level Expectations

ELA-1-E6, ELA-4-E2, ELA-4-E5, ELA-4-E7, ELA-3-E3, ELA-7-E1, ELA-7-E2, ELA-7-E4