

Dear Teacher:

This guide was produced to offer suggestions for reinforcing the information given to students during the Block Parent presentation in your school/classroom.

This information package is designed to:

- Reinforce the information about the Block Parent Program;
- Promote discussion on personal safety;
- Determine each student's perception of a "Stranger"; and
- Promote participation of students in CBPA's annual 13-month school calendar, sold to support Block Parent volunteer efforts in Calgary.

Ideas and suggestions have been offered by grade levels. However, it should be kept in mind that all of these projects could be used at any level with some simple modifications or additions.

We thank you in advance for your assistance in reinforcing the safety information given to your students in the recent Block Parent presentation. By doing so, you are making a commendable effort to better prepare and educate your students about safety issues. Block Parent volunteers truly believe that "education is the key to safety".

If you have any other suggestions or have tried something with your students that worked particularly well, I urge you to contact me so that this information can be included in future printings.

Yours truly,

Brenda Cosens
Education Coordinator

KINDERGARTEN

Each student should know the following:

- First and last name;
- Parents first and last name, especially if it differs from the child's;
- Complete address including city, province, postal code;
- Phone number, including area code;
- How to:
 - use a telephone
 - use pay phone
 - make a long distance call
 - how to make a collect call or reach an operator

and how and when to dial 911;

Safe locations in their community:

- Block Parent homes and businesses
- Schools
- Libraries
- Fire halls
- Police stations, etc.;
- Who is a stranger and what dangers they present; and
- Code word, to be kept confidential between parents and their children.

Suggested activities:

1. Draw a picture of a Block Parent home or sign
2. Give the child a paper plate and ask them to draw a picture of a stranger. (you might want to have the students do this prior to a Block Parent presentation and then their perceptions can be addressed during the program.) Follow this exercise with a discussion about strangers, including the fact that you cannot tell if someone is good or bad simply by looking at them. Because this is not possible, you must always maintain a safe distance between you and anyone you don't know, i.e. three arms lengths away.

Suggestion for parents:

1. Do a safety walk in the community to identify the safe routes to and from school or a friend's home and the safe locations. (*see above*)
2. Caution parents against displaying child's name on the outside of clothing or their backpack.

GRADES 1 TO 3

Each student should know the following:

- First and last name;
- Parents first and last name, especially if it differs from the child's;
- Complete address including city, province, postal code;
- Phone number, including area code
- How to:
 - use a telephone
 - use pay phone
 - make a long distance call
 - how to make a collect call

and how and when to dial 911;

- Safe locations in their community:
 - Block Parent homes and businesses
 - Schools
 - Libraries
 - Fire halls
 - Police stations, etc.;
- Who is a stranger and what dangers they present; and
- Code word, to be kept confidential between parents and their children.

Suggested Activities:

1. Design a poster or write an essay or poem on the theme "What Does Block Parent Mean to Me?". *(Once these have been turned in and viewed by the teachers and class, we suggest that you forward the entries to CBPA, with a release form, provided by CBPA, attached. These will then be given consideration for use in the Calgary Block Parent Association's annual 13-month school calendar. The deadline for submissions is December 31st of each year. All entries should be done in paint or felt pen, as these make the best reproductions for the calendar. Maximum size for entries is 11" by 14" and the minimum size is 8 1/2" by 11". Please do not fold any entry. If mailing is a problem, please call CBPA to have entries picked up.. Winning entries will be recognized by means of a plaque and calendar presented at a school assembly each spring. More information on this can be obtained by calling our office at 269-6460.)*

2. Safety walk in the community to:
 - a. Identify the safe locations (*see above*);
 - b. Identify safe places to play;
 - c. Identify dangerous locations to be avoided, i.e. construction sites, alleys, deserted lots, abandoned buildings, etc. and discuss the dangers of each; &
 - d. Identify safe routes to school. (*It is safer to take the shortest possible route to a main road and then travel the main road to school or other destination.*)

3. Design a poster featuring one possible danger connected with a stranger.
(*Reinforce with your students that the stranger is not the danger, but what these individuals might do. It is more important that the child recognize the dangers and avoid them, rather than simply telling them not to talk to a stranger. These may also be submitted to CBPA for calendar.*)

Suggestions for parents:

- Safety walk (*see above*)
- Reinforce not having child's name visible on the outside of clothing or school bag.

GRADES 4 TO 6

Each student should know the following:

- First and last name;
- Parents first and last name, especially if it differs from the child's;
- Complete address including city, province, postal code;
- Phone number, including area code
- How to:
 - use a telephone
 - use pay phone
 - make a long distance call
 - how to make a collect calland how and when to dial 911;
- Safe locations in their community:
 - Block Parent homes
 - Businesses
 - Schools
 - Libraries
 - Fire halls
 - Police stations, etc.;
- Who is a stranger and what dangers they present; and
- Code word, to be kept confidential between parents and their children.

Suggested Activities:

1. Design a poster or write an essay or poem on the theme "What Does Block Parent Mean to Me". (*Once these have been turned in and viewed by the teachers and class, we suggest that you forward the entries to CBPA, with a release form, provided by CBPA, attached. These will then be given consideration for use in the Calgary Block Parent Association's annual 13-month school calendar. The deadline for submissions is December 31st of each year. All entries should be done in paint or felt pen, as these make the best reproductions for the calendar. Maximum size for entries is 11" by 14" and the minimum size is 8 1/2" by 11". Please do not fold any entry. If mailing is a problem, please call CBPA to have entries picked up. Winning entries will be recognized by means of a plaque and calendar presented at a school assembly each spring. More information this can be obtained by calling our office at 269-6460.*)

2. Safety walk in the community to:
 - a. Identify the safe locations (*see above*);
 - b. Identify safe places to play;
 - c. Identify dangerous locations to be avoided, i.e. construction sites, alleys, deserted lots, abandoned buildings, etc. and discuss the dangers of each; &
 - d. Identify safe routes to school. (*It is safer to take the shortest possible route to a main road and then travel the main road to school or other destination.*)

3. Design a poster featuring one possible danger connected with a stranger.

(Reinforce with your students that the stranger is not the danger, but what these individuals might do. It is more important that the child recognize the dangers and avoid them, rather than simply telling them not to talk to a stranger. These posters may also be submitted to CBPA for calendar.)

4. Play the memory game: (*to train students to recognize differences and retain the information.*)
 - Block Parent sign – size, colour, logo, etc.
 - Block Parent Business Decal (*how does it differ from the sign, where is it found and what does it mean?*)
 - Licence plates – colour, number &/or letters, special design, location
 - Fellow student(s) – have someone leave the room and describe what they were wearing, colour of hair and eyes, height, identifying marks, hair style, etc.
 - Police officer's uniform – how does it differ from other uniforms.

Suggestions for parents:

- Safety walk (*see above*)
- Reinforce not having child's name visible on the outside of clothing or school bag.