Kids see strangers every day. You can protect your child by teaching them about strangers and suspicious behavior. Talk about:

**What is a stranger?**

A stranger is anyone you do not know well. Explain that no one can tell if a stranger is nice or not nice by just looking at them. Tell them to be careful around all strangers. Explain that “bad strangers” may not look scary like villains in cartoons.

**Who is a safe stranger?**

Tell your child they can ask safe strangers for help if they need it. Point out safe strangers, such as police officers, when you are out in public.

**Safety Tips:**

- Make sure your child knows that it’s okay to say no to an adult, and to run away from adults they do not know.
- Teach your children to trust their instincts. Explain that if they ever feel scared or uncomfortable, they should get away as fast as they can, and tell an adult. Even if a familiar adult makes them uncomfortable, they should still get away as fast as possible, and tell another adult what happened.

Source: National Crime Prevention Council. ncpc.org