

# Little by Little Pre-K: Keeping Me Safe and Healthy

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# Teacher Tips

Our society is just beginning to see the importance of early childhood. As educators, it is your responsibility to give children and their families the tools necessary to build a strong foundation for future success.

This book was designed to help guide you through the important role you will play in the lives of your students and their families.

## Tips for teaching lessons

- Read and experiment with all lessons on your own before using them in your classroom.
- Certain activities may be adjusted to better meet the needs of your individual students. Please keep this in mind when planning and reading lessons.
- Be enthusiastic and always participate in the activities with your class.
- Give positive and consistent feedback to everyone in your class.
- Practice singing the songs or reciting poems before you attempt to teach them to your class.
- Remember to be flexible. Use this book as a guide to teach your children important life lessons.
- Early childhood is a time of great exploration; therefore, it is important to do the concrete, hands-on experience to help them internalize their learning.
- All of these lessons were created with opportunities for every type of learner to understand a concept; therefore, it is important to include all parts of each lesson when teaching.

## Tips for Parent Involvement

- The best way to promote parent involvement in children's education is to keep them informed. Consistent and open communication between home and school is essential. Daily communication with parents is the best way to ensure that learning at school is being followed up at home.
- This book is equipped with family pages to help you communicate with parents about individual lessons.
- Reports like the sample found on the following page are simple ways to keep parents informed on a regular basis. Feel free to incorporate this into your curriculum on a daily or weekly basis. It can be made easy by filling in the teacher's name, date, and general learning activity before making a copy for each child. Then, fill in individual information as needed. This individual information is found under "Your Child's Experiences" and should include personalized learning information, such as a child's progress or response to a learning activity. Use the Parent Reminder for information, such as dates to return requested items to class.

# My Learning Report

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

## Our Learning Activities

## Your Child's Experiences

## Parent Reminder:

# Stranger Safety

## Stranger Matching



### Objective:

To teach children to identify and stay safe around strangers.

### Materials:

- Pictures of strangers from magazines
- Pictures of teacher, classmates, and families (Have children bring in pictures from home.)
- (2) photocopies of each picture you collected

### Preparation:

- Gather all materials.
- Make photocopies and cut all pictures to the same size.

### Introduction:

- Invite children to form a circle.
- Have the class name some characteristics they believe they will find in a stranger.
- Show the class a picture of a nice-looking stranger.
- Compare the characteristics they named to this stranger and discuss the differences. Make sure to note there are all types of strangers.
- Stress strangers may be very nice, but they can still be dangerous.
- Recite the "Stranger" poem and then discuss its meaning with the class.

### Stranger

Someone you don't know is a stranger.  
Stay away from them; they could mean danger.  
Strangers can be short or tall.  
Just don't talk to them at all.  
They may offer you candy or a toy.  
It may even be a girl or boy.  
If a stranger begins to talk or come near you,  
Turn and run for help; it is the safe thing to do!

### Activity:

- Show the class each of the pictures you collected and have them determine if this is a stranger or someone they may know.
- Have half the class draw pictures of people they know while the other half plays the stranger memory game.

- To prepare for the game, place all the pre-cut sets of pictures face down.
- Have each child take turns picking two cards and trying to find a match.
- As a card is turned over, have the student decide if it is a friend or stranger.
- In order to make a match, the student must call out "friend" or "stranger" and be correct.
- At the end of the game, count the matches of friends and strangers and compare the two.
- Have the class switch activities so everyone has a turn to play.

### **Closing Activity:**

- Have children present and discuss their drawings to the class.
- Ask the class to recall what they are learning about strangers and allow each child to share.
- Recite the Stranger poem again and see if your group's learning reflects the ideas in this poem.

### **Follow-Up Activity:**

- Take a large posterboard and divide it in half with a marker line.
- Write "stranger" on one side and "friend" on the other. (Place the stranger picture from earlier next to the word stranger and a friend picture next to the word "friend.")
- Place all the pictures in a bag and allow each child to pick one out and glue it on the corresponding side of the board.
- After each child has had a turn, count and compare how many strangers and friends there were in the game.



## **Make a Stranger Policy:**

Have your class create a signal or phrase to notify others when a stranger is present.  
Give children opportunities to practice it.

# Family Page

## Stranger Safety



Dear Parents,

Our class has just completed a very important lesson on stranger safety. Nowadays, children must be well-informed about this important issue to stay safe. We used pictures of strangers to discuss all the different types and features of strangers. We tried to ensure that the children understand that strangers can be anyone and we should never allow them to talk to us.

After completing a game on identifying strangers, our class played a matching game with the pictures. This exposure to stranger pictures will help your child learn to identify all types of strangers. As parents, you must be willing to discuss this issue and point out different types of strangers in all situations. You can help protect your child from strangers by informing him. The poem below can be recited with your child to open a discussion about strangers. Please do not neglect this subject; it could protect your child from serious danger.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Stranger**

Someone you don't know is a stranger.  
Stay away from them; they could mean danger.  
Strangers can be short or tall.  
Just don't talk to them at all.  
They may offer you candy or a toy.  
It may even be a girl or boy.  
If a stranger begins to talk or come near you,  
Turn and run for help; it is the safe thing to do!



# Gun Safety

## "Never Touch" Game

### Objective:

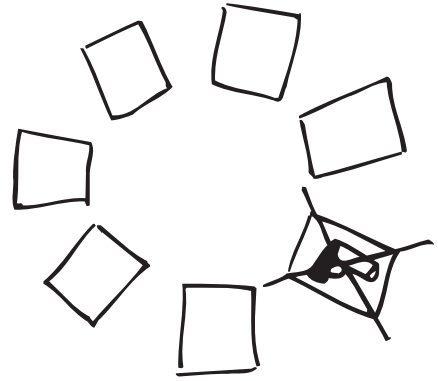
To teach children to stay away from guns at all times.

### Materials:

- Photocopies of game pieces (Page 9)
- Crayons
- Gun safety certificate (Page 10)

### Preparation:

- Gather all materials.
- Make two (2) sets of photocopies of game pieces and, if desired, enlarge them.
- Color the game pieces.



### Introduction:

- Invite the children to form a circle.
- Discuss the dangers involved with guns (for example, they can hurt you or others).
- Ask the class if any of the students have toy guns and if they believe they can tell the difference between a real gun and a toy.
- Tell the class they should never take a chance and play with any type of gun because it may be real and hurt them.
- Sing the "Gun Safety Song" to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot," and then discuss its meaning.

### Gun Safety Song

There are some guns that can look like toys,  
But they have hurt many girls and boys.  
Never take a chance; don't touch a gun.  
Hurting yourself or friends is never fun.

### Activity:

- Have students form a circle and place the game pieces face down inside of the circle.
- Make sure there are enough game pieces for each child. (It's okay to repeat game pieces, except only one gun should be used in the game.)
- Explain you will play music as they walk in the circle. When the music stops, each child should turn over a game piece.

- If the game piece is not a gun, they should pick it up.
- The one who finds the gun must yell "Never touch a gun!" The teacher can then pick up the gun game piece and all other game pieces.
- The child who found the gun and responded correctly has passed the safety test and can start decorating his certificate with crayons.
- Take out one safe game piece and continue to play with remaining children until everyone has a turn getting the gun.

### **Closing Activity:**

- Fill in each child's name on the certificate they decorated.
- Collect the certificates and present one to each child.
- Have the class shout "Never touch a gun!" as each child receives his certificate.
- Recite the "Gun Safety Song" with the class and discuss their personal learning experiences.

### **Follow-Up Activity:**

- Allow the class to use extra copies of the game pieces for handprints.
- Explain the gun piece would never have handprints because we would not touch it. Other game pieces are okay for handprints.
- Paint the children's hands and allow them to print them on safe game pieces.
- The teacher can put a giant "X" on the gun piece and create a bulletin board with all the game pieces.

