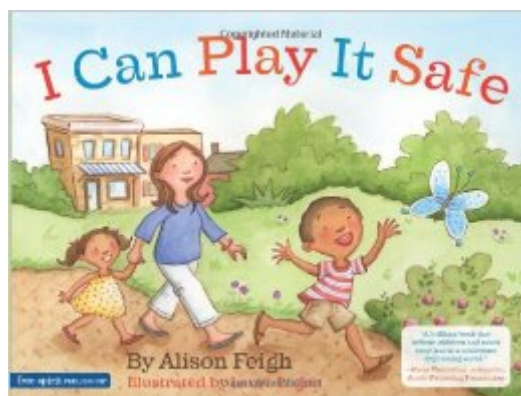


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I Can Play It Safe



Synopsis

Hereâ€™s help for all adults who want to talk to young children about personal safety. Written by an expert in child safety, this full-color picture book teaches kids (and helps adults reinforce) seven important rules to personal safety in a nonthreatening way. It covers topics like safe versus harmful secrets, safe versus harmful touches, and the importance of having a community of trusted adults to turn to for help. Emphasizing the "check-in" rule and teaching kids to trust their gut instincts, this book gives children the knowledge and confidence they need to make smart choices about their personal safety every day.

Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Free Spirit Publishing (April 24, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1575422859

ISBN-13: 978-1575422855

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.3 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #137,416 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Safety #619 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool and up

Customer Reviews

The book is written in first person, about a child playing different games. It uses a series of metaphors which I found to be confusing - as another reviewer noted, I can't imagine how a child would make a connection either. For example, "I am a snowflake" talks about how each child is different and an individual that deserves respect. "I am a plane" shows a child pretending to be a plane and it says how these have to check in with the tower about their plans, and that kids have to do the same thing with parents. "I am a tiger" - the child pretends to growl to warn other animals about trouble - then skips to a child yelling "call 911" if they need help. "I am a detective" shows the child observing others and taking notes and then skips to not allowing a child to keep secrets with grown-ups. "I am a boat captain" talks about a taking care of your boat and keeping away from

rocks and choppy waters and then skips to how others cannot touch your private areas. Say what?? The illustrations are cute but the "I am" stories are only marginally related to the rules and even distracting to a point. At the end of the book I asked my five year old what he had learned and he said, "I don't remember." Honestly, I had to look at the book to even remember what these pretend games were and how they were like the rules. Not good. The messages really do get mixed up and maybe even lost among all these pretend games. At the end, grown-ups will find a one page listing safety issues which was useful in discussing with my son when I realized the message in the book wasn't clear. I ordered this book after an attempted abduction of a seven year old in our town. If my child were ever in a difficult situation, I'd hate to see him trying to remember about tigers and boats and detectives, more so when these really have little to do with what I'm trying to teach him. I really don't think this book will help at all.

This book is pretty good for young children and probably best for use at home with parents. I used it in an elementary school in several different classrooms (K, 1st and 2nd) and the kids didn't like it very much. The character pretends to be different characters (boat captain, detective) and the kids didn't make the connection. The message is important, but I will be using different books.

This book is simple and powerful at the same time. It is a great book with non-threatening tips on how kids can keep themselves safe. It very simple states that no one should touch you where your swimsuit covers. It's not scary, just plain, every day rules. It also covers other safety measures...an adult should never ask you to keep a secret, just a surprise. There is also a great section for parents about WHY the specific safety measures are in place...for example, the "secret" rule. Surprises are fine...birthday gifts, a treat for dinner, etc. If an adult is really asking a child to keep a secret it probably isn't good. This book should be read to every child of every age and gender. Every parent should also be reading this book, too.

I'm an elementary school counselor. I used this book in my end-of-year lessons to talk about safety rules, especially in the summer when kids may have less supervision and more free time. I encourage kids to share these rules with their families and talk about other safety rules that make sense where they live. The kids love the book, especially the pictures.

I bought I Can Play It Safe for my own children and then immediately bought another copy for our pre-school program. This is a great book for pre-school and elementary school-age kids. It teaches

safety in a way that young children can understand and in a way that builds confidence rather than introducing fear. Some of the concepts introduced are: the importance of making plans and checking-in with a parent or caregiver, trusting your instincts ("the uh-oh feeling"), asking for help from a trusted adult, paying attention to the people around you, and knowing the difference between a secret and a surprise. Reading this book with children is a great way to start discussions about personal safety. As a mother and a teacher, I highly recommend this book!

I second/ agree wholeheartedly with Justbooking's review. I wanted a clear and simple message about personal safety/appropriate vs inappropriate interactions for my 3-year old, and the book doesn't deliver. It tries to do too much and loses focus in the process.

We loved this book when we bought the hard copy and are grateful to now have the e-book. These are real, effective strategies to help kids avoid danger... without terrifying kids of other people. Feigh recognizes that 'stranger danger' doesn't work, and gives real and practical alternatives that are easily understood by kids. Most importantly, the kids like reading the book and pick it up themselves. It wouldn't work otherwise!

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