

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR CHILD

Start Effectively Talking Safety With Your Kid From The Very Beginning





Hybrid Cheat Sheet



The following is a checklist that you can use to track your progress and make sure that you learn all of the information packed into the main report. You can add items if you need to.

Talking Safety

- Parents worry about the darkest possibilities when it comes to child safety.
- The world gets crazier.
- Protecting your child doesn't cost anything

You Can't Watch Them All The Time

- It would be nice if we could protect them 24/7, but we can't.
- Life requires you to be separated from the child at times.
- Lessons are going to be taught, either by you or by life.
- There's a better way to manage child safety.

ASKING To Be Sure

- Once you get them talking, it's hard to shut them up.
- The sooner you start daily discussions, the better.
- Don't waste dinnertime discussions talking about food.
- Ask them about new "friends."
- Ask about what their present friends are doing.
- Ask about everything happening in their life.



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Start Talking Safety Now!

- Start Now
- Daily conversations are a habit that's worth starting.
- Have an excuse to talk.
 - Dinner
 - Board Game
 - Hobby or Project
 - Club Event
 - Play Chess
 - Long Daily Drive
 - Shopping Trip
- Set aside “talk time” every single day.
- The more you do it, the easier it gets, and the more they will let you in on.
- After a while, they will want to talk to you about everything.

Talk About What They Want To Talk About

- Even if it doesn't excite you, listen and engage on their topics.
- Steer the conversation gently.
- Watch them play a game, and talk with them about it.
- Steal good ideas for presents, so you don't have to act later ;)



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Watch For Life Lesson Opportunities

- Even video games provide opportunities to teach life lessons.
- Earn their trust.
- You can get the Cliff Notes version of their life, no cameras necessary.
- Watch for warning signs, with them or their friends.
- Don't let depression or threats go unchecked.
- Discuss your concerns with them, and they'll discuss theirs with you.
- You don't need to micromanage safety, you can outsource it to them.
- Talking doesn't solve every safety issue, but it teaches them to be safe on their own.
- Developing a safety minded child removes some of those worries.