

Building Boundaries: Called to Protect for Young Children

Fifth Grade: Healthy Privacy

Child Development:

Fifth graders continue to spread their wings as their overall development accelerates. This is an age when fitting in with the peer group is paramount. In addition, it is a time when children may begin to experiment with risky behaviors to gain the respect of their peers or to follow the leader of a peer group. Fifth graders remain affectionate with parents but clearly have a life, with its stresses and successes, beyond the family.



Lesson Overview:

The focus of this program for fifth graders is behavioral boundary skills. The corresponding lessons are designed to reinforce the concept of appropriate privacy — what can and should be kept private, and what should not. The lessons continue to develop the fact that children must tell adults some things that are private or “secret.” In addition, the lessons caution fifth graders about giving out too much private information to people on the Internet.

Objectives for Fifth Grade Students:

Students will:

1. Learn what can and should be kept private and what needs to be shared with a safe adult.
2. Learn the rules for safety when communicating on the Internet.
3. Learn how to recognize and respond when someone wants too much private information.

Your child will learn that they have a right to certain types of privacy. For example, they can keep their journals private, and they can keep certain confidences with friends. But they will learn, also, that they should not keep everything private. If they have a physical problem, they need to confide in someone. If someone is making them feel bad or asking them to break rules, they need to tell someone. This lesson includes information about the Internet and how to recognize when someone is asking questions or wanting information that is too personal to share.

