Steps To
Staying Safe
Storybook
21

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Storybook

This book belongs to:

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Maria is 5 years old. She loves playing soccer at the park close to her grandpa's house. Maria is only allowed to go to the park with older brother Juan (who is 16), not by herself. Her grandpa is always trying to make sure she is safe from harm.

One day, Maria decided not to go straight home after playing soccer. She wanted to keep practicing, even though she knew she's not meant to stay without Juan.

While Maria was playing she saw someone who looked familiar. He said his name is Abe and asked if he could kick the ball with her. Maria felt a bit uncomfortable because she didn't really know him well, but said, "yes."

After playing for a while, Abe told Maria she was very good at soccer, which made her cheeks turn red. He then touched her red cheeks and laughed. Maria had been practicing really hard, so she was glad Abe noticed, yet she felt uncomfortable that he had touched her face.

Abe asked Maria if she wanted to come play soccer at the park near his house. He said “I have a new soccer ball you can have if you come with me!” Maria replied, “I’m not allowed to go without permission.” Abe whispered, “That’s a shame, I really had fun playing with you. What if we keep this our special secret?”

Maria thought it would be cool to have a new soccer ball and a special secret with Abe because he is pretty fun. But she also knew her grandpa and Juan wouldn't be very happy if she lied to them. So she said, "No, thank you!"

Abe looked angry, which scared Maria. She picked up her ball and backpack and said she was going home. When she turned to walk away, Abe grabbed her backpack and yelled, "Stop!"

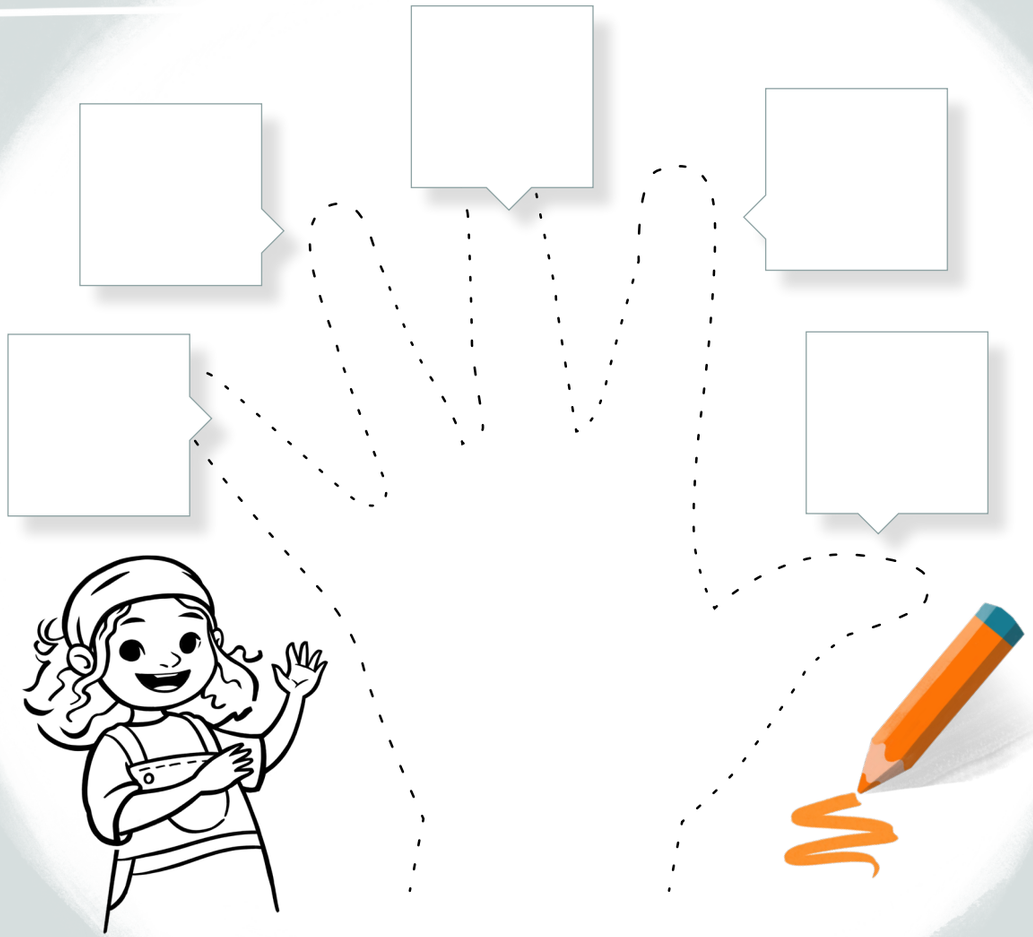
Maria dropped her shoulders and let go of her backpack. She yelled, "You're not my grandpa!" loudly so other people in the park could hear her. Abe quickly turned around and walked away, hoping no one saw him.

Maria ran over to a lady in the park with kids around her age and asked for help.

The lady kindly took her by the hand and helped her walk home safely.

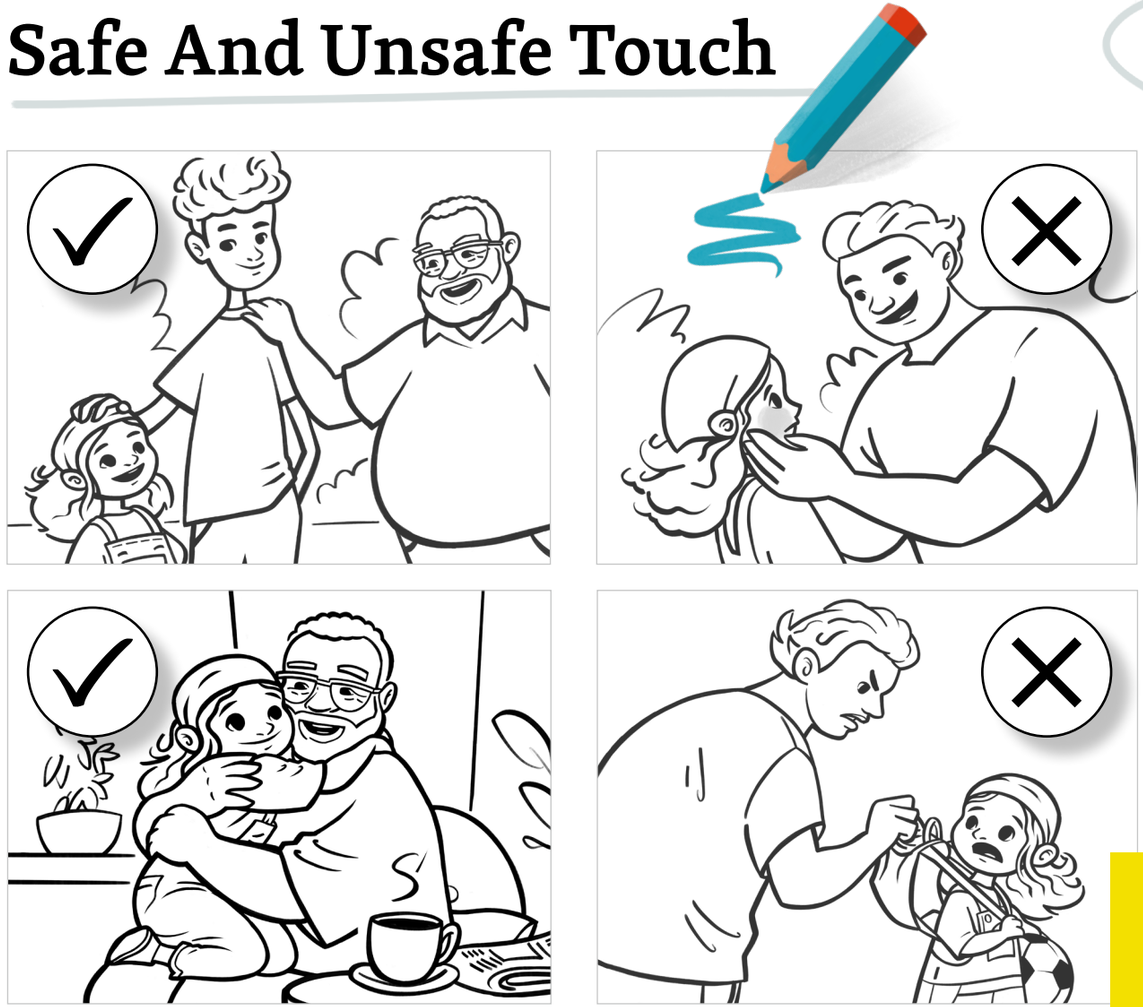
Maria told her grandpa what Abe had asked her to keep a secret. Her grandpa gave her a big hug and said, “Don’t worry, you did the right thing. I will call the police and tell them what happened.”

Safe Circle



This is my Safe Circle. It's a safety tool that helps me remember the five trusted adults who I can talk to when I don't feel safe.

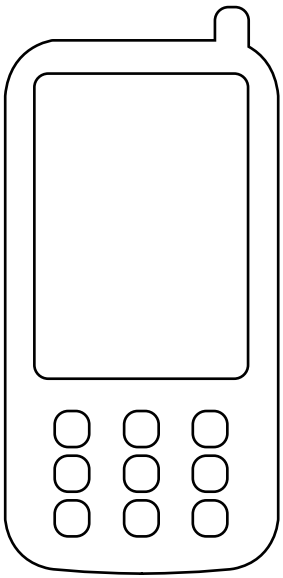
Safe And Unsafe Touch



I know safe touch is invited and only when I say "yes." Unsafe touch is uninvited and makes me feel uncomfortable, scared, and should not be kept as a secret.

ACTIVITY PAGE

Hotline Number



This is the hotline number I can call if I need help.
I can also call **911** if there is an emergency.