

River Forest Police Department
ISEARCH Safety Education Program
2nd Grade Safety Class Summary

Recently, a police officer and instructors from the ISEARCH Safety Program of the River Forest Police Department met with your child for a class on safety.

We taught the following: we defined the word emergency, explained how to get help in emergencies, practiced safety decisions when lost, practiced safety decisions about the way people approach us and may touch us, and safety decisions with strangers.

We explained that an emergency is a time when they are scared or lost or in danger, or if they or someone else is hurt or injured.

We advised that the best ways to get help in emergencies are:

1. Call 911.
2. Use the emergency hand signal to signal a police officer or teacher or parent.
3. Go to a busy place and find an adult who can help them.

Safety when lost: When lost, we advised students that it is best to stay in the open where they last saw the person they were with, or they can ask for help from a store employee. We advised against wandering, trying to look for the person who lost them, and we advised never to leave the building or store, never to go to look for their family car or school bus in the parking lot. We advised never to walk off with friendly strangers who offer to help to take them to their missing parent or teacher, or offer to help them find their car or school bus in the parking lot.

Safety about the ways people approach us: We considered the ways people approach us and ways people touch us. We taught that some approaches and touches are OK, for example, handshakes and high 5's, and some approaches and touches not OK, such as pushes, hitting, and standing too close. We encouraged students to say no to people who touch them in ways that make them feel uncomfortable, scare them, or hurt them, then tell someone, you, a teacher, or a police officer about what happened.

Safety with strangers: We encouraged students that they should say no to strangers who ask them for help, or ask them to go with them. They should say no, keep their distance, get away, and then tell someone, you, a teacher, or a police officer about what happened.

Questions: please call or write:

Officer Glen Czernik Crime Prevention Office
River Forest Police Department,
708.366.8500 or gczernik@vrf.us
Linda Conway, Director, ISEARCH Safety Programs
708.366.8500 or conwayisearch@gmail.com

ISEARCH is a personal safety curriculum for students in grades K - 8, supported by the Police Department of River Forest and River Forest Township Youth Services