

Summer 2016



THINK FIRSTTM & Stay SafeTM

created by Child Lures Prevention

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through the generosity of*

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PERSONAL SAFETY SKILLS TRAINING

provided at
NO CHARGE
to students in
**K-6TH GRADE
CLASSROOMS**

at schools in
SOUTHWEST INDIANA
since the spring of 2010



Holly's
HOUSETM



As of May 2016, more than 23,000 students in 5 counties have been taught *Think First & Stay Safe!*



K-6th Grade Child Abuse Prevention Program
FREE to public & private schools in Southwest Indiana



WHO WE SERVE

- In our first **6 years**, Holly's House has taught *Think First & Stay Safe* to nearly **24,000 students** in over **1,100 elementary classrooms** in five Southwest Indiana counties (Gibson, Pike, Posey, Vanderburgh, & Warrick)
- Nearly 6,400 students are scheduled in over 300 classrooms for the 2016-2017 school year.

WHY WE TEACH

In today's world ...

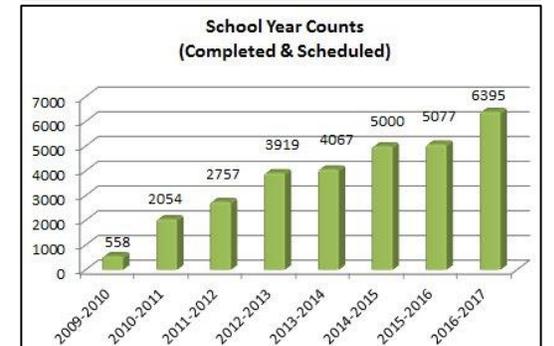
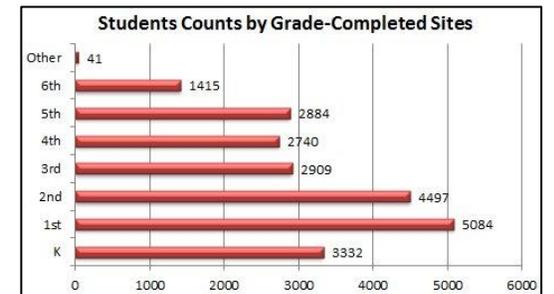
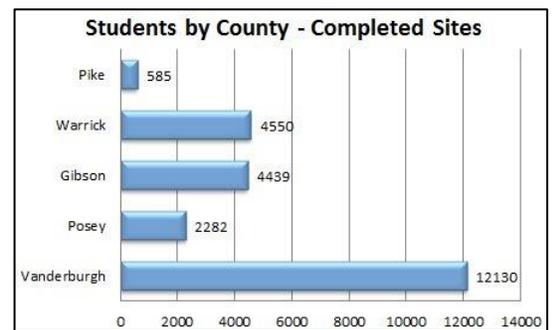
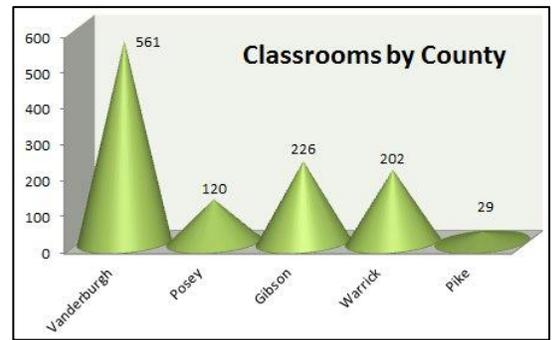
- 1 in 10 children are sexually abused before the age of 18. After 20 years of focusing on prevention, this shows an 11-13% drop, or fewer incidents of child abuse! *Source: Darkness to Light, October 2013.*
- The most common ages of children when sexual abuse occurs are between 8 & 12. *Source: David Finkelhor et al, A Sourcebook on Child Sexual Abuse, Newbury Park: Sage Publications*
- More than 90% of all sexual abuse victims know their perpetrator. Almost 50% of the offenders are household members, & 38% are already acquaintances of the victims. *Source: US Department of Justice and Ormond, 2001.*
- 80% of sexual assaults occur at home; 49% in broad daylight. *Source: Sexual Assault Care Centre, 1999, Myths & Facts About Sexual Assault*

Incidents in the Community & Nation

- National news has heightened awareness of the issues of lures and child sexual abuse.
- Local incidents of abuse and lures noted in the media have brought the issue closer to home for many.
- This has created an opportune time to mention to school personnel, parents, and other concerned community members that we have this free program available to schools.
- Some are even asking how they can help get it into their child's school or youth group.

Importance of Prevention

The National Weather Service has shown that increased awareness and preparedness help reduce deaths from fierce storms. Using this same combination, we can and will help safeguard our children from abuse, especially from lures that can short circuit one's basic instincts.



For more information about *Think First & Stay Safe*, contact our Lead Prevention Educator prevention@hollyshouse.org



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WHY WE TEACH (continued)

Inquiries by Students

- Comments from the Question Box at two schools have created opportunities for dialog with the principals and counselors, who appreciated knowing and were planning to look into the various issues that arose.
 - “What do you do if a boy in the class touches you in an area that you don’t want to be touched in?”
 - “What would you do if you were being bullied and you were in the bathroom and a group of boys locked the door so you would not be able to leave?”
 - “What do you do if one of your classmates is trying to sexual abuse you?”
 - “What if your aunt asks to wash you and then tries to play with your bathing suit zone?”

It Works!

Summary of Test Results

Early pre- and post-test comparative data shows ...

- The percentage of pre- and post-assessment questions answered correctly by K-2nd grade students improved by 12.5% in 2010-2011 and 28.8% in 2011-2012.
- Students in 3rd through 6th grades demonstrated an 8% improvement in 2010-2011 and 9.5% in 2011-2012.

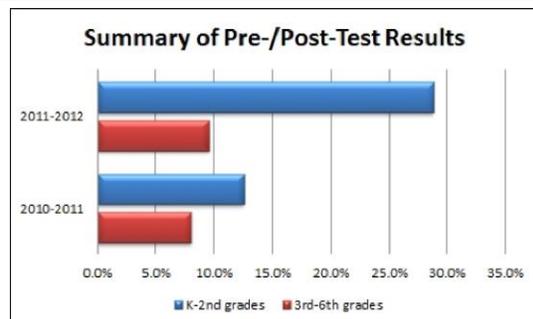
All data is analyzed by a professional statistician and is considered statistically significant.

WHAT WE TEACH

- With the desire to equip students with knowledge and skills to help them stay safe or become safe from abuse, Holly’s House investigated numerous curricula available on the topic. After reviewing various options, the agency chose to use *Think First & Stay Safe*, published by Child Lures Prevention/Teen Lures Prevention.
- In order for students to get the most out of *Think First & Stay Safe*, our facilitators typically make five consecutive visits into an individual classroom for approximately 30 to 45 minutes each day.
- *Think First & Stay Safe* is offered at no charge to schools. The program is taught to students in K – 6th Grades. The material is appropriate for public and private school students with separate lessons for Grades K, 1st/2nd, 3rd/4th, and 5th/6th. While grade levels are not combined, as schools invite Holly’s House back in subsequent years, the lessons and learning activities have been adapted to the grade level of the student as he/she ages and develops.

See an overview of the core lesson topics (next page).

For more information about
Think First & Stay Safe,
contact our Lead Prevention Educator
prevention@hollyshouse.org



**1 in 10 children
will be sexually abused
before they turn 18**



400,000 children
are sexually abused each year.

93% of victims are abused
by someone they know and trust
Only 7%
are strangers to the child

A reactive approach does not work.
Only 27% of children tell someone within the first year
Only 53% of reported incidents are investigated by DCS
Only 29% of reported incidents lead to police arrests

50% of sexually abused children suffer trauma
severe enough to negatively impact their adult lives.

Learn the Facts and
End Child Sexual Abuse
D2L.ORG

**SOMETHING
MUST
BE
DONE**

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THINK FIRST & STAY SAFE

Child Abuse Prevention Program

BASIC TOPICS

- *Think First & Stay Safe* teaches students to identify and outsmart the lures that are consistently used in predatory crimes against children, most often by someone known to the child.
- Students learn essential personal safety skills to improve self-reliance and raise self-esteem, while being consistently reassured that most people are kind, safe and committed to their well-being.

CORNERSTONE LESSON CONCEPTS



Using Our Built-in Computers: Staying Healthy and Safe

Our brain is the **most powerful computer** in the world. We can train our brain to help us stay or become safe.



People are Like the Weather: Being Kind and Respectful

Most people have Sunny Weather Behavior. Some people have Stormy Weather Behavior. We help students **be ready for Stormy Weather Behavior in people**, whether it's a stranger or someone they know. If we can take precautions from unsafe weather, we can also take safety measures to protect ourselves from people who use unsafe or Stormy behaviors.



Trusted Adults Can Help Us

Students are asked to think of adults in their lives whom they know and can trust. We call those "Trusted Adults" and repeatedly we emphasize the need to "tell a Trusted Adult" when anyone tries to lure or hurt them or when they feel unsafe or confused.



Child Luring: Treat it Like a Fire Drill

Child lures are used by people with Stormy Weather Behavior to trick, tempt or force children into hurtful or unsafe situations. Child Lures can be used by adults, older kids, and even kids one's own age.



Laws Help Protect Me: Kids Have Rights Too!

In this segment we cover Bullying, the protection kids have under **the Law, being Truthful**, and that their **Bathing Suit Zone belongs to them**. With older/streetwise children, we also cover the **types of abuse**.



Listening to Our Instincts: No Secrets

Instincts: When we hear a siren, it's usually telling us about some kind of danger, that something is wrong, or that someone is hurt. Instincts, our gut feelings, are our built-in, personal sirens. If something or someone sets off our inner siren, we don't have to wait until something happens. We can tell a Trusted Adult about the uneasy feeling we have and seek their help with the situation.



Secrets: Anytime a secret would make us feel sad, embarrassed, or afraid, it's not healthy. All secrets are eventually told. We help students practice identifying safe and unsafe secrets. It's never too late to tell a trusted adult about a secret we've been keeping for a long time, even if someone would be disappointed in us or has threatened to hurt us if we tell. Our trusted adults are here to help.



The Kindness of Strangers: Choosing Safe Strangers

Most of the time, when kids are lured into inappropriate or unsafe situations it's by someone they know. When it comes to our own personal safety, we can't just LOOK at a person, but we need to be aware and careful of how people BEHAVE, watching for Stormy Weather Behavior. Sometimes we may need to depend on the kindness of strangers, such as, if we get hurt or separated from our parents. Then, we seek to choose safe strangers.



My Dignity: Safe & Healthy Boundaries

Everything about us makes us a one-of-a-kind person. There's no one else like you. Nothing about the way a person looks, speaks or acts gives anyone the right to mistreat or abuse them. Being mistreated is never the fault of the person targeted. Abuse is NOT a child's fault. Just like snowflakes, each one of us is different and beautiful in our own way. Each one of us deserves to be treated and needs to treat one another with kindness and respect.

To schedule *Think First & Stay Safe*,
contact contact our
Lead Prevention Educator
prevention@hollyhouse.org



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Prior to obtaining a teaching degree, Child Lures Prevention founder Ken Wooden classified fingerprints for the New Jersey State Police. Every Thursday afternoon, two colleagues joined him in checking the prints of school bus driver applicants. Wooden was appalled that each week, 10-20 of those applicants proved to be convicted child molesters.

Twenty years later, while assisting CBS News 60 Minutes on a story about child pornography, Wooden uncovered a seedy newsletter created and distributed by PIE (Pedophile Information Exchange.) The father of three young daughters, he read in disbelief a front-page column entitled, "Lure of the Month." Soap crayons were the topic: how children love them, how they are an effective and inexpensive way to get kids to undress themselves, and so forth.

Blending his investigative reporter instincts and training as a high school social studies teacher, Ken researched what was being done in schools, communities, and homes to combat crimes against children. He was dismayed at the utter lack of prevention efforts. The limited available educational resources, while well meaning, were fundamentally and dangerously flawed. Most involved the archaic Stranger-Danger approach.

There are very few of us whose parents didn't warn, "Never talk to strangers." For generations, that safety slogan has fed the imagination of children, conjuring up the perception that strangers are scary monster types who prey on children. This misguided safety advice leaves kids defenseless in the real world where youngsters are far more likely to be abused by people known to them - and where sexual predators often act friendly and engaging.

Ken Wooden sought to create a relevant and effective prevention program. While lecturing at colleges and universities on his first book, *Weeping in the Playtime of Others*, Ken visited over a thousand

convicted child molesters, abductors, and murderers in local prisons. Forcing himself to listen carefully to the response of these 'experts,' he asked them, "How? How did you get the child to trust you? To go with you? To keep quiet? How did you LURE them into abuse/abduction/murder? And, more important, how could the child have eluded you?"

After ten years of research, Wooden began to transform that raw information into a program to safeguard children. He collaborated with colleagues (and daughters) Rosemary Webb and Jennifer Mitchell to create Child Lures Prevention's Think First & Stay Safe™ School Program. Where best to teach the Think First & Stay Safe™ School Program? Ken's background in education furnished the logical answer: the schools. Schools provide a natural forum where kids regularly meet in a safe place with caring staff. There, children who are being abused and neglected at home can also be reached. Furthermore, childhood sexual abuse is one of the leading causes of learning and behavioral difficulties among children today. Its prevention helps to ensure that students are ready, willing and able to learn.

Statistics clearly document the vast scope of childhood sexual exploitation: 44,320 known child predators in prisons; 168,000 on parole; perpetrators averaging 143 victims. Why did Ken Wooden, Rosemary Webb and Jennifer Mitchell create the Think First & Stay Safe™ School Program? Because all those young lives, lost in a mountain of national statistics, have a story etched in sadness, betrayal, and tragedy. They did it because education is power, and they know that this program can save countless children and their families from pain and heartache.

Crimes against children, especially sexual crimes, are not easy to face. We as a society, however, are obligated to prevent them. Indeed, when it comes to protecting children, the school and community is ultimately the last line of defense.



HISTORY OF CHILD LURES PREVENTION

*Think First & Stay Safe™
School Program*



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Think First & Stay Safe,
contact our Lead Prevention Educator
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WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

about



We've collected comments from those who've experienced *Think First & Stay Safe* in their classrooms.

TEACHERS HAVE SAID ...

"I feel as though [my students] are now more prepared for these types of situations." – Kindergarten Teacher

"The information from previous day/days was always reviewed. Students were engaged in physical movement also which kept their focus. Material was worded for their grade level—used new terms but words were what students could relate to." – 1st Grade Teacher

"If I have one student who is helped by the program or one student in the entire school—it was all we need!!" – 2nd Grade Teacher

"I think that it was a great program. [The presenter] introduced several ideas that we will be reviewing in our Health class in the next few months." – 3rd Grade Teacher

"[The presenter] discussed very sensitive topics in a way that young students could understand and not feel threatened making them realize they hold power and are special." – 4th Grade Teacher

"Most definitely my students are more prepared! The program opened an awareness of abuse and I feel my students gained a lot of insight." – 5th Grade Teacher

"My students REALLY listened and were interested! The presenter was amazing at engaging my students who can be a bit 'difficult.' She kept them on topic which is not easy!" – 6th Grade Teacher



ADMINISTRATORS HAVE SAID ...

"Thank you so much for coming into our school and teaching our students many difficult topics. I know our teachers were very pleased with the materials and the way it was presented. Your organization is always welcome at our school." – Principal

"You are a large part of our much-needed school cultural change." – Counselor

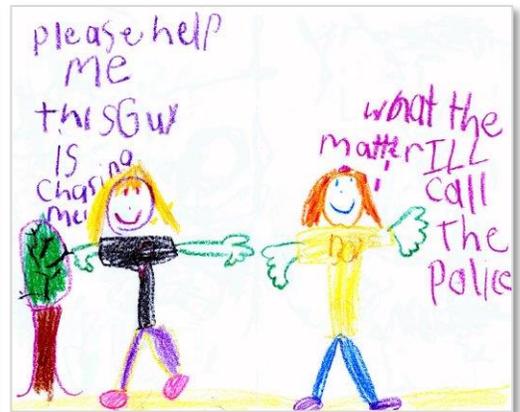
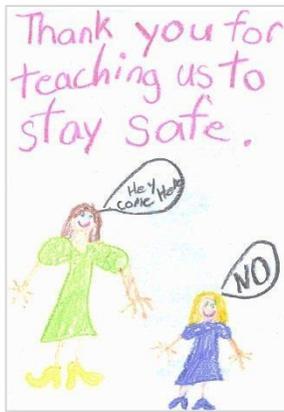
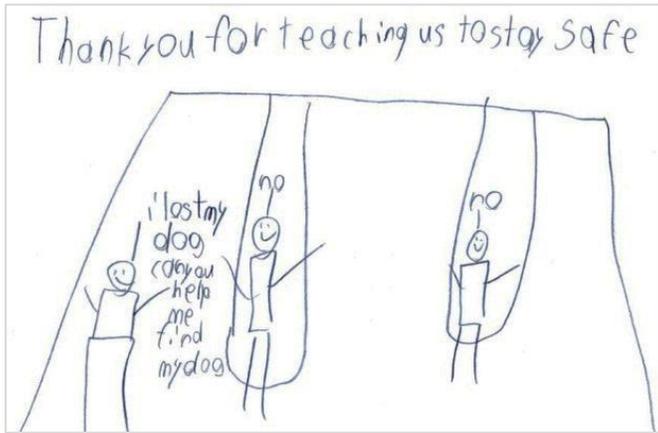


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STUDENT EXPRESSIONS



STUDENTS HAVE SAID ...

"Thank you for coming to our classroom. I know to trust my gut. We learned a lot this week. It's against the law to mess with my bathing suit zone. You've got to think first!"

– 1st Grade Student

"Thanks for teaching us safety!"

– 3rd Grade Student

"I have learned a lot in your program. I had fun doing all of the activities. Thank you so much. This program helped me so much and I learned a lot."

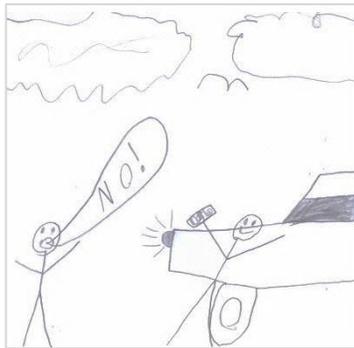
– 4th Grade Student

"Thank you for teaching us about lures and abuse."

– 4th Grade Student

"Thank you for teaching us. We appreciate you coming to teach us how to stay safe and what to do when you get abused, bullied, or when you get lured. Thank you!"

– 6th Grade Student



PARENTS HAVE SAID ...

"I was glad to see the program offered. I think this was good for my age group. The presenter was spot on with kids. Excellent job!"

For more information about
"Think First & Stay Safe,"
contact our Lead Prevention Educator
prevention@hollyshouse.org



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Empowerment Testimonies

Below are accounts of those who have participated in our child abuse prevention program and have found empowerment and confidence to speak up about abuse they've endured or to protect their personal boundaries



Stories of Students Who Found the Courage to Tell a Trusted Adult about Abuse

- A 6th grade girl came into Holly's House to be interviewed. She shared with our intern that she'd had TFSS in her 5th grade classroom and that was what gave her the courage to tell her counselor about the abuse she'd experienced.
- During a 5th grade program, we covered the bathing suit zone and safe/unsafe secrets on a Wednesday. Upon arrival on Thursday, our Prevention Educator learned that one of the girls decided, because of the lesson on secrets, to tell her mom about something her older cousin did to her. Instead of going to school on Thursday, she went to Holly's House to report the abuse. She and her parents were assisted with the reporting process through referrals; she was interviewed, and then connected to counseling with one of our partner agencies all in one day. Not only did she and her family find help, but the teachers, counselor, and principal are strong advocates of this program, having seen its effectiveness. They've already asked to be scheduled for next year!
- A 5th grader, who had transferred schools because of bullying, asked to read aloud a speech she wrote. It started with these words: *"I wake up scared what's going to happen at school. I always feel all alone and empty inside, and thought there is no one that will ever understand or ever know how I feel...I am not the only one but it has to stop with myself, and maybe help someone else that's going through or feeling the way I do. My stomach hurts and I have headaches every day. The girls are spreading rumors and telling secrets, and it just doesn't feel right to me. Is there something wrong with me? Or am I really what they say I am? Could I be a victim of bullying?"*

PERSONAL SAFETY SKILLS TRAINING

provided at

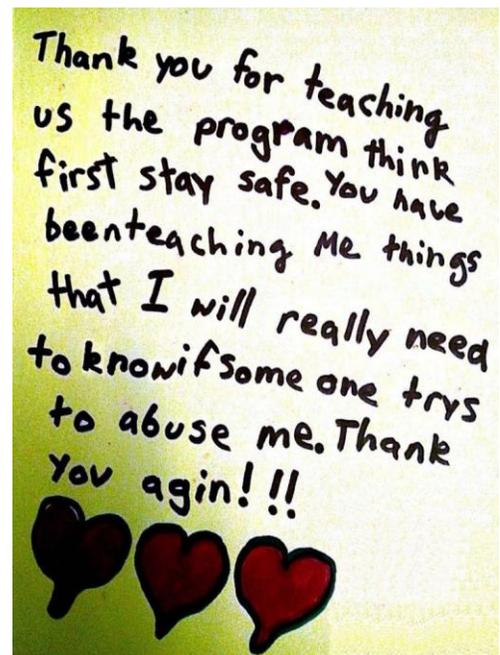
NO CHARGE

to students in

**K-6TH GRADE
CLASSROOMS**

at schools in

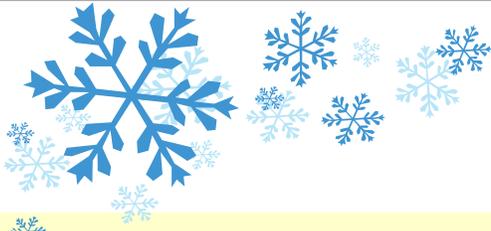
SOUTHWEST INDIANA



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Stories of Students Who Have Implemented What They Learned

A 3rd grade student who remembered having *Think First & Stay Safe* last year, when our presenter asked if anyone knew what we do at Holly's House, wanted to tell what he knew. He said, "It's a place where, when kids have a secret that needs to be told, they can tell it."



While our Prevention Educator was installing a bulletin board at a school, a student walking by saw the "Holly's House" sign and exclaimed familiarity. Then, our staff turned around and she recognized the student as having been in her classroom last year. The student said, while pointing to the display, "I've still got all that stuff AND I remember what you taught us too!"

Stories of Adults Whose Child's TFSS Experience Gave Them the Courage to Report Abuse & Seek Help

"When you came and talked to my son's class, I learned how to 'trust my gut.' My son had a medical need and I was not sure what to do. My gut told me to take him to the hospital and I'm glad I did. After that experience, I began to realize that if I was going to care for my son and keep him safe, I had to advocate for myself. My husband is an addict and has been abusive toward me. I realized that I had to stand up for myself and for my son. I called Holly's House and they connected me with [one of their agency partners] who is still helping me. I have left my husband now and I'm getting a divorce. It has been really hard but I know where to get support and my son and I are in a much better place."

- During our presentation with a Kindergarten class, the classroom teacher told the class about what happened to one of their classmates the day before after school: "Alissa" was told to walk home by her mom. While walking, someone she knows and has ridden with before pulled up alongside her and offered to give her a ride. Even though she knew them, she didn't feel right about it. She ran back toward the school to find a Trusted Adult, which was her teacher. School personnel made sure she got home safely. This account allowed "Alissa" to feel good about her choice, her classmates to see that what they're learning works, and provided a story for others at other sites.
- A 4th grade student's mom told staff that her son had a broken ankle and was headed to the shower one evening. When she asked him if he needed help, he stated that it was HIS decision who helps him in his "Bathing Suit Zone." She asked him where he'd picked that up and he told her about the program he'd had in class the week before (which was our *Think First & Stay Safe* program).
- We had our *Think First and Stay Safe* display at a school's open house. A 3rd grade boy came to the table with his brother who will be starting Kindergarten. The 3rd grader began talking all about when our presenter went to his school. While looking at the display board, he told his brother about the "lures." He described several lures and told his brother why he needed to know about these tricks—so he can be safe. Our staff member shared, "I was floored by the details this little guy retained." Their father said, "Wow, I didn't know any of this, but I'm glad he does."
- A mom of a Kindergartener from an area parochial school shared a story that let her know her son listened during the program: "We had our niece, his cousin, babysit one night. We asked that she make sure he got his shower before bed. When we got home, she let us know that he took a shower, but she didn't help wash him. He told her very specifically that she was not allowed to see his private parts because 'that's not what cousins do.' Good for him!! ... I attribute it to your program. Wanted to let you know what you are doing is sticking!"

***Think First & Stay Safe* helps students identify and outsmart the lures that are consistently used in predatory crimes against children, most often by someone known to the child. Students also gain personal safety skills while being assured that most people are kind, safe, and committed to their well-being.**

For more information on the curriculum content, visit www.childluresprevention.com

More Stories of Students Who Have Implemented What They Learned

- By offering a ride and money to climb into his truck, a man attempted to lure three girls into his vehicle as they were walking to class one February morning. The students kept walking. They called their mother while walking to the school. Upon arrival at school, the students also reported the incident to the office staff. School personnel told their school resource officer and the police department. Two of those students had participated in "Think First & Stay Safe" during August of the previous semester. They were able to recognize that the man was attempting to lure them. They chose to avoid the lures and tell a trusted adult—one on the way and others upon arrival at school!
- Just before starting the fourth day of the program with a 2nd grade class, two students told our Prevention Educator about their inner sirens going off that morning at the bus stop. When they walked past a known neighbor's house toward where they wait for the bus, they saw the man looking at them from a side window...then, another window...then, the next window around the front of his house. Soon, he was at a side window looking out. They looked at each other and noted their "sirens were going off," telling them something was just *not* right. They ran back to one of their homes. The girl's dad was home. He calmed them down, then, suggested they wait on the porch. He told them, when the bus comes, they could run to meet it instead of having to walk past the man's home again. The girls listened to their inner sirens (instincts) and told a trusted adult who helped them stay safe!
- After learning about Trusted Adults during the program, a 2nd grade student created the drawing to the right depicting a child who is faced with a choice. A person in the car is offering a ride, or using the Assistance Lure. The child's Trusted Adults are in view. The child's thoughts show a decision to tell a Trusted Adult about the lure instead of being lured into the car, putting to use the skills taught in "Think First & Stay Safe."

A 1st grade student's class was midway into a "Think First & Stay Safe" program when something happened to him afterschool. He was visiting the home of someone well known to his family. A person at that home touched him in his Bathing Suit Zone. He told one trusted adult who heard him, but he wasn't sure anything was being done. So, he told another trusted adult, who then reported the abuse and sought help for him. Afterward, he stated his new plan, "We won't be going to a certain person's house ANYmore!"



During a weeklong program in a 1st grade class, a student realized that she had been keeping a secret. Because of what she was learning in class, she knew she needed to talk about. That same day she spoke to her counselor. Later, while being interviewed she told about her sister "being hurt in her bathing suit zone." The student used numerous phrases directly from *Think First & Stay Safe* lessons (secret, trusted adult, bathing suit zone, etc.). Through her learning experience, she and her sister can now find safety and healing.

Stories of Families Impacted by Lessons Learned & Materials Provided

- A parent, whose children attend a rural school, shared that she was talking with her son about a lesson he'd had that day in class which included Internet safety. While they were discussing what he'd learned and looking through the Parent Guide that had been sent home, her older daughter was listening in another room.

The daughter later told her mother about a situation she was having with someone over the Internet. The mom expressed that, without the information sent home in the "Think First & Stay Safe" Parent Guide, she would not have known how to react to her daughter's concern. She also wondered when, if ever, her daughter would have told her about the situation if the discussion hadn't been going on with her son.

The mother was very appreciative of the program and the materials sent home to parents. The situation with her daughter was investigated by law enforcement and an online predator was identified.

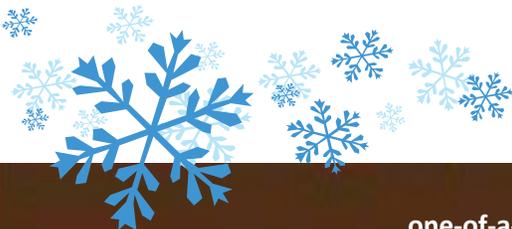
- A 2nd grade teacher shared, "I spoke to my own daughter more about computer and technology lures. I'm sharing what I learned as well."



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St. James Catholic School, Haubstadt, 2nd grade class sent a photo "thank you" to Holly's House after experiencing "Think First & Stay Safe."



Comments by Teachers & Administrators Who Have Noticed the Program's Impact upon Students

Reflecting on a student's courage during a program to report abuse, a teacher said, "A little education and they find their voice" – 2nd Grade Teacher

"I spend about 180 days with these kids during a school year, but I think your few days with the makes a much greater impact than I can all year." – 5th Grade Teacher

"Many times during the week, [the students] would bring up material as 'good weather behavior' or their 'computer in their brain'" (concepts taught in the program). She also noted that the facilitator "discussed very sensitive topics in a way that young students could understand and not feel threatened" helping "them realize they hold power and are special."

Following a 2nd grade program, a teacher noted, "A student told me how her siren went off this past week and she told a trusted adult." (An inner siren means instincts.)

"You are a large part of our much-needed school cultural change." – School Administrator

SCHOOLS IN SOUTHWEST INDIANA

that have hosted/scheduled *Think First & Stay Safe* at least once in classrooms

AS OF 5/31/16

GIBSON COUNTY

Ft. Branch Community School
Haubstadt Community School
Oakland City Elementary School
Owensville Community School
Princeton Community Intermediate School
Princeton Community Middle School
Princeton Community Primary School

Holy Cross Catholic School
St. James Catholic School
St. Joseph Catholic School
St. Peter & Paul Catholic School

PIKE COUNTY

Otwell Elementary School
Petersburg Elementary School
Winslow Elementary School

POSEY COUNTY

Farmersville Elementary School
North Elementary School
South Terrace Elementary School
West Elementary School

St. Matthew Catholic School
St. Philip Catholic School
St. Wendel Catholic School



VANDERBURGH COUNTY

Caze Elementary School
Cedar Hall Elementary School
Culver Family Learning Center
Cynthia Heights Elementary School
Daniel Wertz Elementary School
Delaware Elementary School
Dexter Elementary School
Evans School
Fairlawn Elementary School
Glenwood Leadership Academy
Harper Elementary School
Hebron Elementary School
Highland Education Center
Lincoln School
Lodge Elementary School
McGary Middle School
Plaza Park Middle School
Scott School
Stockwell Elementary School
Stringtown Elementary School
Tekoppel Elementary School
Vogel Elementary School
West Terrace Elementary School

Christ the King Catholic School
Corpus Christi Catholic School
Good Shepherd Catholic School
Holy Rosary Catholic School
Holy Spirit Catholic School
Resurrection Catholic School
St. Benedict Cathedral School
St. Joseph Catholic School
Westside Catholic School-St. Agnes
Westside Catholic School-St. Boniface

Evansville Day School
Joshua Academy
Montessori Academy

84%

of K-6th grade schools

WARRICK COUNTY

Chandler Elementary School
Elberfeld Elementary School
John H. Castle Elementary School
Loge Elementary School
Lynnville Elementary School
Newburgh Elementary School
Oakdale Elementary School

Sharon Elementary School
St. John the Baptist Catholic School
Tennyson Elementary School

For more information, contact
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