

Streetproofing Your Children

A message from your School Elementary Nurse:

- Teach your children their full name, address and phone number.
- Take your children for a walk around the neighbourhood to help them become familiar with the area. Point out the dangers as well as the safe places. (e.g. friends' homes, stores, Block Parent centres, etc.)
- Review traffic safety rules with your children.
- Avoid labelling the outside of your children's clothes and back packs as it makes it easier for others to gain your child's trust by using their name.
- Know your children's whereabouts at all times. Keep an updated list of full names, addresses and phone numbers of your children's friends.
- Encourage your children to walk in pairs/groups in well-lit areas using the same route each time. Remind them to go directly to their destination without using shortcuts or stopping along the way. Tell them to phone you when they arrive.
- Teach your children that if someone tries to steal from them, they should give up their possession to avoid injury and tell a trusted adult.
- Teach your children about stranger safety. Remind them that adults should never approach children to get help or to offer them anything. If followed, they should run away and yell for help. Play "What if...?" games to reinforce safety rules.
- Use a family secret code or "password" to protect your children from going with anyone who doesn't know the code.
- Teach your children that they can call 911 from a pay phone in an emergency, without using money.
- Tell your children that if someone asks them to do something that makes them feel bad or scared, to get away and tell an adult that they trust.



For more information contact the School Health Elementary Nurse for your school and/or visit

www.peelpolice.on.ca or
www.niagararegion.ca