

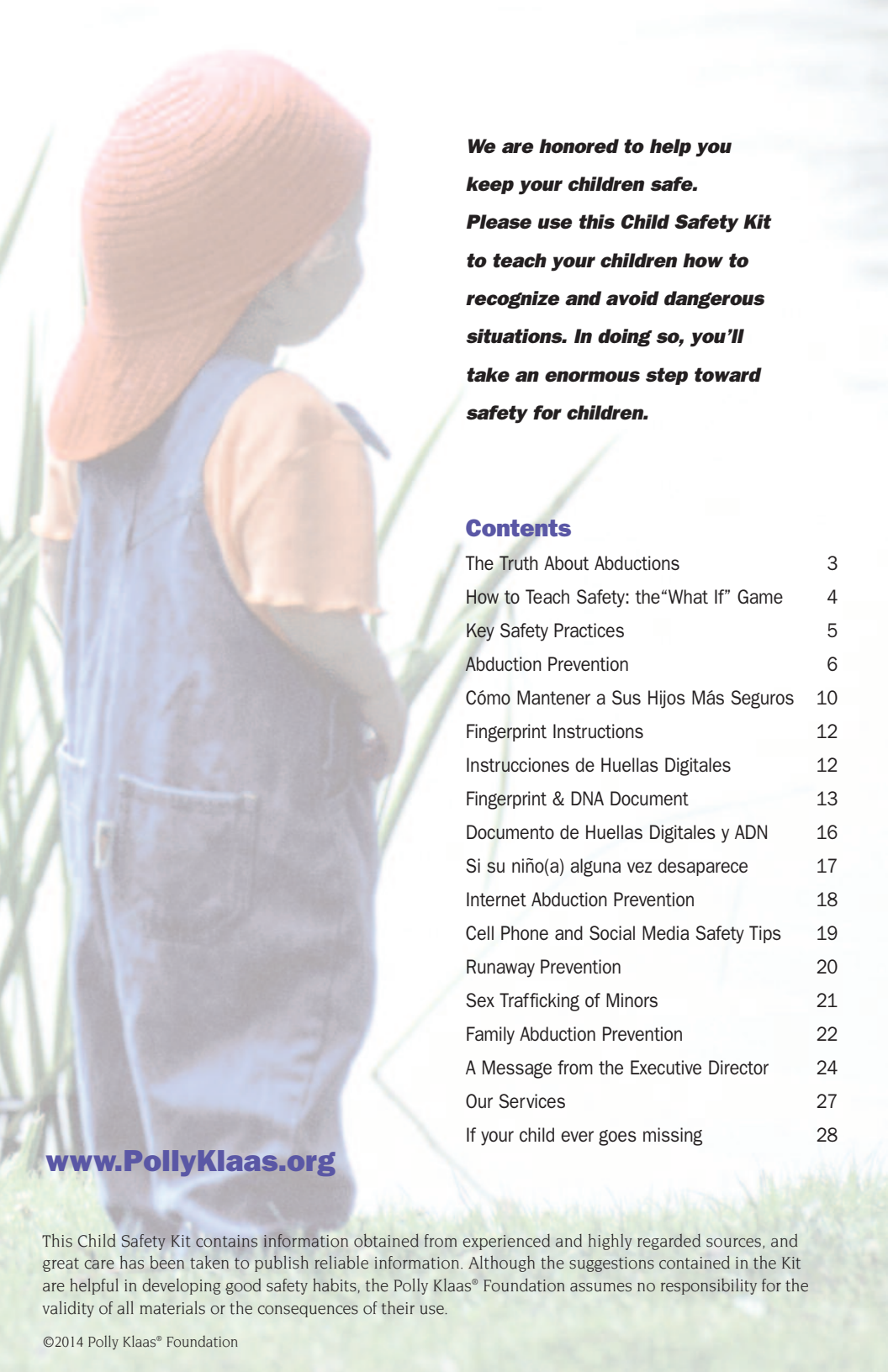


Child Safety Kit

Teach abduction
prevention without
scaring your child
(or yourself).



Includes two home-use Fingerprint and DNA Documents. For all ages.



***We are honored to help you
keep your children safe.
Please use this Child Safety Kit
to teach your children how to
recognize and avoid dangerous
situations. In doing so, you'll
take an enormous step toward
safety for children.***

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This Child Safety Kit contains information obtained from experienced and highly regarded sources, and great care has been taken to publish reliable information. Although the suggestions contained in the Kit are helpful in developing good safety habits, the Polly Klaas® Foundation assumes no responsibility for the validity of all materials or the consequences of their use.

When you hear scary statistics remember:

99.8% of the children who go missing do come home*

*The Polly Klaas® Foundation
is a nationally recognized
authority in the field of
missing children. We help
find missing children and
prevent children from
going missing.*

- Nearly 90% of missing children have simply misunderstood directions or miscommunicated their plans, are lost, or have run away.
- 9% are kidnapped by a family member in a custody dispute.
- 3% are abducted by non-family members, usually during the commission of a crime such as robbery or sexual assault. The kidnapper is often someone the child knows.
- Only about 100 children (a fraction of 1%) are kidnapped each year in the stereotypical stranger abductions you hear about in the news.

And about half of these 100 come home.

The truth

Traffic hazards are a much greater danger to your child than a kidnapper. All parents teach their kids how to cross the street. It's no big deal. We give them the rules and help them practice until they show us they **know** what to do and can be trusted to **do it**.

Here's the good news

We can teach kids what to do if lost or approached by someone questionable in the same way we teach them how to cross the street. This kit will show you how.

We'll start with what to do if they are lost. Turn to the "What If" game—a game to teach safety without scaring your child (or yourself).

*National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway and Thrownaway Children, 2002, U.S. Department of Justice





“What If” Game

- You say to your child: “What if we were out at the store and you looked around and you couldn’t see me? Who would you go to for help?”
- Your child might answer: “A policeman.”
- “That’s right, you could go to a policeman. But if you didn’t see a policeman nearby could you go to the cashier?”
- “And if you didn’t see a cashier, could you go to a mom with kids? Sure you could.”
- “And how could you ask for help? Could you tell the cashier your full name, and then say, ‘Can you help me find my mom?’”
- “Okay, so you’ve asked someone for help. Now you need to stay there and wait until I come and get you. Can you do that?”
- “What if someone tried to make you go with him? What could you do then?”
- “That’s right! Yell and scream. Yell ‘No, you’re not my dad (mom)!’ Can you do that? Let’s practice it together!”

This is the first and most important lesson in abduction prevention. It teaches a child to assess the situation, decide to seek help, find a safe person to ask for help, how to ask, how not to be lured away, and how to yell, **“No!”**

Three suggestions

- Play “What If” for anything on the **Key Safety Practices** list or in the **Abduction Prevention Guidelines** section.
- If your child is reluctant to play “What If” try reversing the roles. “You be the grown-up and I’ll be the kid.” Hearing mom yell, “No, you’re not my dad!” cracks kids up but they still learn from it.
- Just be sure not to say “What if” in a scary way. Say: “What if you were walking home and saw someone you felt nervous about?” **Don’t say**, “What if a black van stopped and a stranger jumped out?”

Three good reasons not to use the word “stranger”

- Children think “strangers” are dirty and scary looking. But most people who intend to harm children are careful to look nice and act friendly.
- There’s more risk from people a child knows than from strangers.
- If you’ve based your safety plan on warning kids about “strangers,” they’ll be afraid to get help from someone they don’t know even in an emergency.

Finally, practice often. Teach new skills each year as kids get older. Spend at least as much time on personal safety as you do on street crossing safety, and don’t turn kids loose until they’ve mastered the rules.

Key safety practices

For kids

- Know your name, parents' names, address, and telephone number.
- Check first. If any older person offers you something or invites you somewhere, ask mom or dad first.
- Hang with a friend. Kids are safer in groups.
- It's not your fault if someone hurts you or tricks you. Be sure to tell a trusted adult—it's not tattling.
- If home alone, keep doors and windows locked. Don't let anyone in, not even a policeman, without checking first with a parent.

- Kids should yell "**No**," run away, and tell if an adult breaks any of these rules:
 - Adults don't need to ask kids for help.
 - Adults should not offer anything to a kid.
 - Adults should not ask kids to keep secrets.
 - No one should touch a kid's private parts (parts covered by a swimsuit) or ask a kid to touch their own or another's private parts.

How kids can get help

- Find a safe adult like a mom with kids or a cashier, ask for help, then stay there and wait, don't go looking for mom or dad.
- If you feel threatened yell, "**No!** You're not my mom (or dad)!" Run away and get help.
- Break the rules if you're in danger. Yell, run, drop your books, and even knock over boxes in the store to get attention.
- It's okay to call 9-1-1 if you need help right away.



And for parents

- Say "I love you."
- Respect kids' instincts. If they feel weird about something, there's probably a reason. Help them figure out what to do.
- Check out the **Internet Abduction Prevention, Cell Phone and Social Media Safety, Runaway Prevention, and Family Abduction Prevention** sections.
- Teaching safety is an on-going process, but **it doesn't have to be scary**. Start now, but expect to return to the topic all the way through the teen years. The **Abduction Prevention Guidelines** section provides more information.

800-587-4357

Abduction prevention guidelines

What parents need to know (and how to say it to your child)

Teaching these skills can be empowering for both you and your child. Practicing these coping strategies doesn't usually scare a child, unless **you** convey fear. So just try to be very matter-of-fact.

- Train your children to **check first** before accepting anything from other adults, before helping someone older, or before going anywhere with anyone. If the clerk in the store offers a piece of candy, even if you're right there, a child should always respond, "I have to ask first."
- Help your child say "**No!**" to adults. Children who are polite and compliant are at risk. Children are safer when they can recognize adults breaking the adult rules (like offering treats or asking for help), and can say "No!" and come tell you.
- Encourage children to **tell you** (or another trusted adult) if someone has made them afraid or uncomfortable. Ask: "Who could you tell if you couldn't tell me?" Tell them: "Keep on telling until someone helps you."
- As children become more independent, be sure they use the **buddy system**. Kids are safer in groups of two or more.
- Teach children about sex and sexuality. If this embarrasses you, tell them, "The private parts of your body are the parts covered by a swimsuit. No one is allowed to touch your private parts except sometimes a doctor when mom or dad is there with you."
- Listen to your children when they talk about family members or other adults who make them feel uncomfortable or scared. Children's instincts are often accurate.
- Assure children that should they ever become separated from you, you will always look for them.
- Set an example of good safety habits for your child. For example, always tell kids how long you will be gone and where you can be reached. And call home if plans change! They will follow your example.
- Help your children talk freely about themselves and their feelings. Children who feel listened to are less likely to seek approval from inappropriate people.
- Know your neighbors and your children's friends and parents. Keep a list of their phone numbers and addresses.
- Be sure your child's day care center, youth organization, and school screen employees.
- Make sure the labels on kids' clothing and belongings are not visible. Knowledge of children's names can be used to gain their trust or put them off guard.

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For parents of children from birth to pre-school age

- Keep an eye on your child all the time.
- Hold toddlers by the hand or keep them in shopping carts or strollers when away from home.
- *Don't* leave kids alone in the car even for a second.
- It's time for your child to *begin* learning full name, address, phone number, and parents' names. Of course, children master these skills at different ages. Try making a game of it. For example, sing your address to the tune of one of their favorite songs.
- Introduce the "*What If*" game to start teaching kids to check first before accepting treats.
- Begin teaching decision-making skills. Ask, "Which would you rather wear, your blue pajamas or your red ones?" This will help later on if children need to say no to inappropriate requests from adults.
- Children in this age group are most at risk of family abduction. Take threats of abduction from former partners seriously. Review the section on **Family Abduction Prevention**.

For parents of six- to ten-year olds

Use "*What If*?" games to check a child's readiness for more independence. As you act out the game, encourage children to yell "No!" and run to a safe place.

- "What if I was late to pick you up from school and someone offered to drive you home?" (Your child should check first, no matter who offers. Children of separated or divorced parents should know visitation times and check first if the other parent shows up unexpectedly.)
- "What if you were supposed to walk home with your friend and he was sick that day? What could you do so you didn't walk alone?" (The buddy system is best for children of *all* ages. Be sure children know what you want them to do in this emergency.)
- "What if one of the neighbors insisted that you help carry a box inside the house? Could you say no and run away and come tell me?" (Adults shouldn't ask kids for help.)
- "What if an adult or any older person was being really friendly and offered you a treat and you thought it might sound rude to say no. Could you still say no? Sure you could!" (Adults shouldn't offer kids treats or trips without asking their parents.)
- "What if an adult or any older person took something of yours and wanted you to get close to get it back?" (Don't try to take it back. Run away and get help.)

A six- to ten-year-old should know:

- Full name and parents' full names
- Address, including state and country
- How to make a phone call (including area code)
- How and when to dial 9-1-1. ("When you need help right now and it can't wait.")



As parents of six- to ten-year olds, you should also:

- Know the times and route(s) your child travels to school and activities.
- Help children identify safe people and places in your neighborhood to run to for help if they feel threatened—houses, stores, phones where they can call 9-1-1.
- Encourage kids to be aware as they walk: for instance, to keep at least 3 big steps away from occupied cars.
- Remind children about private parts. Say, “No one should touch the parts of your body covered by a swimsuit, or ask you to touch theirs. If this happens to you, tell me or another trusted adult.”
- Be sure children feel comfortable “telling” by making it a family rule not to keep secrets. A child can often prevent sexual abuse by saying, “We don’t keep secrets. I’ll tell.”
- A family password can be used when you need to send someone else to pick up your child. If that person doesn’t give the password, tell your child to yell “No!” and run and get help, no matter what the person says.
- Walk your children into their new friend’s houses; meet the parents. If *you* don’t feel comfortable with the situation—don’t leave your child. Make plans for another day at *your* house.
- Accompany your child into public bathrooms.
- Call the parents before a sleepover and find out who will be there. Ask about the activities.
- Don’t let children sell door to door (or trick or treat) unless you go too.
- Be sure your children let you know where they are going, with whom, and to call you if plans change. If you are in the habit of doing this yourself, it will be easier for the kids.
- As children begin to spend time at home alone, teach them never to say you’re not there, and never to unlock the door. Have them say, “My parents can’t come to the phone (door) right now. Please call back,” and end the conversation. Tell kids who to call if they are scared or need help.
- The Internet, particularly social media sites and online gaming becomes more of a risk for this group. Check out the section on **Internet Abduction Prevention**. The two most important Internet rules are: always keep personal information private and never meet an online friend in person.
- Family abductions are a risk for this group, too. If you have gone through a custody dispute, be sure to review the section on **Family Abduction Prevention**.

For parents of Preteens and Teens

Many of the preceding suggestions still apply at this age. Before granting increased freedom, check out your child's ability to follow safety rules and to use good judgment. "What if?" is still a good jumping off point for discussion of new situations and rules.

- Make a deal with your kids: they can call you to pick them up any time, any place and you'll come get them. If you're angry or need to discipline, you will save it for later.
- The Internet, particularly social media sites and online gaming poses special risks for this group. Check out the **Internet Abduction Prevention** section in this kit and visit our website www.PollyKlaas.org for more Internet safety information.
- Smart phone accessibility poses unique risks for preteens and teens. Check out the **Cell Phone and Social Media** safety section.
- Family abductions are a lesser risk with older teens, but if there is anger between separated parents, be sure to check the section on **Family Abduction Prevention**.
- Kids at this age are still vulnerable to predators and should recognize lures or cons from adults like asking for help or directions, offering rides or jobs, or offering to take their photograph.
- In the teen years, kids need special encouragement to "tell" if someone has tricked or harmed them.
- Educate teens about sex and sexuality, so they will be less vulnerable to sexual advances by predators.
- Watch for signs that your teen is using drugs or alcohol and seek help if you detect them. Drugs and alcohol can affect judgment and make kids more vulnerable to being exploited.
- Check out the **Runaway Prevention** section.

800-587-4357

Cómo mantener a sus hijos más seguros

Este Kit de Seguridad Infantil (*Child Safety Kit*) contiene sugerencias para los padres acerca de cómo mantener a sus hijos alejados del peligro y enseñarles a protegerse a sí mismos.

Consejos de Seguridad

Para los padres

- **Enséñele** a su niño a decir su nombre completo y los nombres completos de sus padres. Enséñele a su hijo su dirección, incluyendo la ciudad y el estado, y el número de teléfono, incluyendo el código de área. Practiquen hasta que el lo pueda decir fácilmente.
- **Los niños siempre deben de informar-le** a alguien a dónde van. Los padres pueden dar un buen ejemplo avisandoles a sus hijos cuándo van a salir y en dónde se les puede encontrar. Los niños nunca deben de ir a ninguna parte solos. Están más seguros con un amiguito.
- **Enséñele** a su hijo a pedir permiso siempre antes de aceptar golosinas o regalos o ir a algún lugar con alguien, incluso con alguien que conozcan. Un niño debe de avisarle a uno de sus padres o a un adulto de confianza si alguien le ofrece regalos, dinero o un trabajo; si alguien quiere tomarle una fotografía; o si alguien intenta hacerle mantener un secreto. Si este adulto no lo escucha, enséñele que debe de insistir hasta que alguien lo escuche realmente.

Para los niños

- **Dígale** a su hijo que está bien decirles “NO” a los adultos. Un niño que se siente amenazado debe gritar fuerte:

“¡No, usted no es mi mamá!” (o papá), gritar y llamar mucho la atención. La seguridad es más importante que la amabilidad, y hay momentos en los cuales queremos que nuestros hijos griten y sean groseros para que puedan estar a salvo.

- **Los niños deben de conocer** las partes privadas de sus cuerpos (las partes cubiertas por un traje de baño) y deben de decir “¡NO!” y contarles a sus padres o a un adulto de confianza si alguien toca sus partes privadas o les pide que toquen las partes privadas de otra persona. Si este adulto no los escucha, los niños deben de insistir hasta que alguien les crea. Los padres deben de escuchar, creer y apoyar a sus hijos cuando estos les informan que han sido tocados de manera indebida.
- **Si un niño está solo** en casa, este nunca debe de decir que sus padres no se encuentran y nunca debe de abrir la puerta cuando alguien toca la puerta o el timbre. Sin abrir la puerta, el niño puede decir que sus padres están ocupados y pedirle al visitante que regrese más tarde.
- **Los niños que usan el Internet** nunca deberían de dar información personal (nombre, edad, dirección, ciudad, fotografías, nombre de su escuela, número de teléfono, nombres de los padres, etc.). NUNCA deberían de conocer a un amigo del Internet en



www.PollyKlaas.org

persona y deben de contarle a un adulto de confianza si algo en el Internet los hace sentir atemorizados, inquietos o confundidos.

- **Los niños siempre deben de permanecer** 3 pasos grandes de distancia de los automóviles ocupados. Si se les acerca alguien en un automóvil, deben de dar un paso atrás y correr en dirección opuesta a la del automóvil.

Como los niños pueden obtener ayuda

- **Los niños deben de saber** cómo llamar al 9-1-1 y a la Operadora en caso de emergencia y deben de saber que no cuesta dinero, incluso desde un teléfono publico.
- **Enséñele** a su hijo qué hacer si alguna vez se pierde. Un niño debe de encontrar un adulto de confianza, pedirle ayuda, quedarse allí mismo y esperarlo a usted, no salir a buscarlo. Un adulto de confianza puede ser el cajero de una tienda, una madre con niños o un policía, variará según los lugares. Ayúdele a su hijo a pensar en la persona más adecuada en cada lugar al que van juntos.

Más consejos para los padres

- **Escuche** a su hijo. Lo más importante que usted puede hacer para mantener a su hijo alejado del peligro es construir una relación basada en el amor, el
- **Los niños pequeños** siempre deben de estar bajo la supervisión de un adulto responsable.

respeto y una comunicación abierta. Los niños desean saber que usted los ama, que los protegerá y siempre los buscará si alguna vez desaparecen por cualquier razón.

- **Los delincuentes utilizan trucos** para atraer a los niños. Por ejemplo, les piden direcciones o solicitan ayuda para buscar una mascota perdida o para cargar algo. Enséñele a su hijo que los adultos no necesitan pedirles ayuda a los niños. Si un adulto le pide ayuda a un niño, éste debe de decir “NO”, salir corriendo y contarle a sus padres u otro adulto responsable.
- **Asegúrese** de que su hijo no use ropa o porte cosas que tengan su nombre visible.

Instructions for Fingerprint & DNA Document

The Fingerprint & DNA Document by itself will not keep your child safe, but it will provide vital information if your child ever goes missing. Complete it, update it often, and keep it in a safe place.

You might want to fill out this Document with your child by asking the questions and letting your child provide the answers. That way you'll find out what you need to teach. If your child asks why you're doing this, simply say, "So we'll have all the information about you in one place in case of an emergency."

Update photographs and record new height and weight measurements every six months for younger children and at least yearly after age six.

Visit www.pollyklaas.org/safe/id-document-download.html to print extra Fingerprint & DNA Documents.

Instrucciones para el Documento de Huellas Digitales y ADN

Este Documento de Huellas Digitales y ADN por si solo no mantendrá seguro a su niño. Pero si contiene información vital en caso que su hijo(a) desaparesca. Complételo, actualícelo a menudo y guárdelo en un lugar seguro.

Puede llenar este documento con su niño, hágale preguntas y deje que él/ella las conteste por si mismo(a). De ésta manera usted sabrá que es lo que necesita enseñarle. Si su niño(a) pregunta porqué está haciendo esto, simplemente conteste: "Para tener toda la información acerca de ti en algún lugar en caso de emergencia".

Actualice las fotografías y lleve un récord nuevo de altura y peso cada seis meses para niños menores de seis años y por lo menos cada año para mayores de seis años.

Visite www.pollyklaas.org/safe/id-document-download.html para imprimir documentos de huellas digitales y ADN adicionales.

800-587-4357

Keep this Document in a safe place at home.

Fingerprint & DNA Document

Keep a current head and shoulders photo of your child. 4" X 6" or bigger is best.

Fingerprint record

Read all instructions first!

Practice on paper before applying prints. A flat print is acceptable for identification when the center of the fingerprint is clear and unsmudged. Rolling the finger is NOT necessary and may smear the print. For very small children you may do all four fingers at once. If the prints are not clear, keep trying on a separate sheet of paper until you get good prints. Store the sheet with the Fingerprint & DNA Document.

- Use a black stamp pad that makes clear prints.
- Hold your child's finger rigid, placing your forefinger over the cuticle area.
- Lightly place child's finger on ink, then lightly apply to correct space below.

Right thumb

Right index

Right middle

Right ring

Right little

Left thumb

Left index

Left middle

Left ring

Left little

The Polly Klaas® Foundation does not assume responsibility for the quality of information and/or fingerprints contained within. For best results, fingerprinting should be done by a trained professional.

DNA sample. Collect 25 to 50 hairs with root attached from a clean hairbrush. Seal hair in a plastic bag and tape it here. **Or** put a baby tooth that has fallen out in the bag.

Enter the following information with your child:

My name is		Today's date	
My nickname is		I am a boy/girl	
My street address is			
City ()	State	Zip code	
My home phone number is (including area code)			
My eye color is		My hair color is	
My special identifying features like pierced ears, glasses, scars, birthmarks are			
My mother's name is			
My mother's street address is			
City ()	State ()	Zip code	
Her home phone is		Her office/cell phone is	
My father's name is			
My father's street address is			
City ()	State ()	Zip code	
His home phone is		His office/cell phone is	
My guardian's name is			
My guardian's street address is			
City	State	Zip	
My guardian's home phone is		My guardian's office/cell phone is	
Child's birthdate	Child's race	Weight	Height
Doctor		Phone	
Current Medications (if any)			
Allergies (if any)			
Chronic illnesses (if any)		Blood type (if known)	
Dentist		Phone	

Muestra de ADN. Recaude entré 25 a 50 cabellos con raíz de un cepillo limpio. Selle el cabello en una bolsita plástica y adhiera aquí. O guárde un diente de leche que se ha caído en la bolsita.

Registre la siguiente información con su niño(a):

Mi nombre		Fecha de hoy	
Mi apodo		Soy niño/niña	
Mi dirección			
Ciudad ()	Estado	Código Postal	
Mi número telefónico (incluyendo el código de area)			
Mi color de ojos		Mi color de cabello	
Mis características especiales como aretes, anteojos, cicatrices, marcas de nacimiento:			
Nombre de mi madre			
Dirección de mi madre			
Ciudad ()	Estado ()	Código Postal	
Teléfono en casa	Teléfono de Oficina/ Celular		
Nombre de mi padre			
Dirección de mi padre			
Ciudad ()	Estado ()	Código Postal	
Teléfono en casa	Teléfono de Oficina/cell		
Nombre del tutor			
Dirección del tutor			
Ciudad	Estado	Código Postal	
Teléfono en casa	Teléfono de Oficina/Celular		
Fecha de nacimiento del niño(a)	Raza	Peso	Altura
Doctor		Teléfono	
Medicamentos (si toma regularmente)			
Alergias (si se sabe de alguna)			
Enfermedades crónicas (si existen)		Tipo de sangre (si se conoce)	
Dentista		Teléfono	

Documento de Huellas Digitales y ADN

Mantenga una fotografía
reciente de cabeza y
hombros de su hijo(a).
4" x 6" o más grande
es mejor.

Huellas Digitales

Lea todas las instrucciones primero.

Practique en un papel antes de tomar las huellas en este Documento. Una huella digital es aceptable para identificación cuando el centro de la huella esta claro y sin manchas. No es necesario rodar el dedo, se puede manchar la huella. A los niños muy pequeños se les puede tomar las huellas de los cuatro dedos simultáneamente. Si las huellas digitales no están claras, utilice un cojín de tinta para tomar las huellas digitales en una hoja de papel por separado hasta obtener huellas claras y guárdelas con este Documento.

- Coloque un cojín de tinta que produzca huellas claras.
- Sostenga el dedo de su niño y manténgalo firme, colocando su propio dedo índice sobre la cutícula del dedo del niño.
- Suavemente coloque el dedo del niño sobre un cojín de tinta y luego aplique suavemente la huella en el espacio indicado para cada dedo.

Pulgar derecho

Índice derecho

Medio derecho

Anular derecho

Meñique derecho

Pulgar izquierdo

Índice izquierdo

Medio izquierdo

Anular izquierdo

Meñique izquierdo

La Fundación Polly Klaas no se responsabiliza por la calidad de la información y/o huellas digitales en este documento. Para mejores resultados las huellas deben ser tomadas por un profesional capacitado.



Si su niño(a) alguna vez desaparece

- No espere
- Llame al 9-1-1 inmediatamente
- Proceda a una rápida búsqueda por el área
- Déle el Documento de Huellas Digitales y ADN a la policía
- Llame a la Fundación Polly Klaas al tel. 800-587-4357
- Nuestros servicios son GRATUITOS.

Internet abduction prevention

The Internet is a valuable tool, but there are substantial risks for kids online. It's a place where a child can easily encounter a dangerous person who wants to become their new "best friend." In addition, kids can receive inappropriate spam or pornography; they may fall victim to identity theft; or open e-mail containing viruses.

What you can do

- Place the computer in an area that is accessible to the whole family, where you can observe your children's online activities.
- Enjoy time with your children while on the Internet together.
- Recognize warning signs like screen switching when you enter the room, phone calls for your child from strange adults, Internet use at odd hours of the night, a sudden influx of cash, or emotional withdrawal from family or friends.
- Create an environment where your child can confide in you without fear of being punished.
- Protect your children from online predators by monitoring their social media sites and interactions.
- Help your child understand the greatest danger online—meeting a cyber buddy in person. If your child insists on a meeting, go with him or her, and arrange to meet in a public place.

For further information or help, if your child has been lured by someone they met on the Internet, please contact the Polly Klaas® Foundation at **800-587-4357**.

www.PollyKlaas.org





Mobile safety in general

Just as in chat rooms and social sites, kids need to think about who they text and talk with. They should never text/talk about sex with strangers. Phones should only be used to communicate with people they know in the real world.

Mobile social networking

Many social sites have a feature that allows users to check their profiles and post comments from their phones. That means some teens can do social networking literally anywhere, in which case any filter you may have installed on a home computer does nothing to block social networking.

Get to know the ins and outs of popular social media sites and discuss appropriate privacy settings with your teens. Before accepting a request to become someone's friend on Facebook or other social sites; make sure it is actually someone you know and not an imposter. You can do this by simply phoning your friend or e-mailing to a known address to verify.

Social mapping

More and more cell phones have GPS technology installed, which means teens who have these phones can pinpoint their friends' physical location—or be pinpointed by their friends. Talk with your kids about using such technology and advise them to use it only with friends they know in person. Remind teens that often photos and videos that are uploaded to social sites contain GPS location information.

Media-sharing by phone

Teens love to share photos and videos with friends on all types of mobile devices. There is both a personal-reputation and -safety aspect to this. Talk with your teens about never letting other people photograph or film them in embarrassing or inappropriate situations (and vice versa). They need to understand privacy rights in sharing photos and videos via cell phones. Explain to teens that once a photo or video is uploaded online it is very difficult to control who sees that media. In fact any compromising or inappropriate photos can stay online for years and can even negatively affect future opportunities.

Smart phones

Teens can access all that the Web offers, appropriate or not, on their phones as well as computers. Mobile carriers are beginning to offer filtering for the content available on their services, but they have no control over what's on the Web. Parents of younger kids might want to consider turning off Web access and turning on filtering.

Most importantly, teenagers and parents should talk openly about how they use their mobile devices. Cell phones are the new norm for keeping in touch with our children and for children to keep in touch with parents and friends. This information is not meant to scare anyone away from technology but to remind everyone to think about its use responsibly. So have fun and be safe!

Runaway prevention

The myth about runaways is that they are not at risk because they've chosen to leave home. The truth is that kids aren't safe by themselves on the streets.

If you think your child might be at risk of running away, please call the Polly Klaas® Foundation at 800-587-4357. Our caseworkers can help you take steps to improve your relationship with your child—so kids stay home. It's worth almost any amount of effort, especially today where statistics show that 1 in 7 runaways will become victims of sex trafficking.

Kids often run from an intolerable family situation or to find or get something they don't have at home. Some of the warning signs are:

- Arguments, yelling, hurt feelings and failure to agree
- Impulsive or irrational behavior—either yours or your child's
- Involvement with an antisocial peer group
- Child abuse in the family
- Alcohol or other drug use by the family or child
- Divorce, separation or death in the family

What you can do

- Support your child's needs to mature and seek independence.
- Defend your children openly against harassment or verbal abuse of any kind.
- Start working to minimize angry conflict and improve communication.
- Stay calm and don't respond with anger or name-calling, even if your child is yelling.
- Avoid interrupting when your teen is talking.
- If you get overwhelmed when talking with your teen, say, "I'm upset. I need a break to think about this." Take that break, do something calming, and then come back to talk again.

For more information, check out some of the many books available on communicating with your child.

Seek help to deal with family conflict. The Polly Klaas® Foundation can refer you to professionals in your area. Call **800-587-4357**.



Sex trafficking of minors



What you need to know about child sex trafficking

The prevalence of child sex trafficking in the United States significantly marginalizes the safety of every child who runs away.

Studies show children as young as 12 years old are targeted by sex traffickers.

Many runaways are so desperate for basic needs such as housing or a meal; they are willing to do things they would normally not consider.

Predators in the sex trafficking industry use this level of desperation to manipulate children, often bribing them with small rewards such as food, to groom them for exploitation.

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children approximately one in seven endangered runaways will become victims of sex trafficking in the United States. Before a child knows it, they have become the “property” of vicious and unscrupulous sex traffickers and are fully immersed in prostitution without any way to get out of the situation.

To compound matters; after a child victim has become reliant on the sex trafficker for all their basic needs they are less likely to accept outside help for fear their connection to basic needs may be cut off by the person exploiting them.

Visit our website at **www.PollyKlaas.org** for more information and helpful resources on child sex trafficking.

Case study (names have been changed)

16 year old Tonya went missing from school during her lunch break. She had told friends that she was meeting a boy that she had befriended on her social media site.

When Tonya's father found out Tonya had gone missing from school he immediately contacted law enforcement and the Polly Klaas Foundation.

Within one day law enforcement had determined, based on Tonya's cell phone records and social media page, that she had been corresponding with a 21-year-old known sex trafficker. They discovered that the man had picked Tonya up in a taxi and claimed to school officials to be her brother. He then placed Tonya on a Greyhound Bus to a motel out of the city.

When Tonya realized that the man intended to prostitute her, she was able to escape and seek help from a security guard in the area. She was brought to a nearby hospital for treatment.

This is a sample case with a positive outcome; however there are thousands of children in our country who do not escape from their trafficker and become part of a heartbreaking statistic.

800-587-4357

Family abduction prevention

Family abductions account for almost 80% of abducted children every year. The motive for most of these kidnappings is anger or revenge against the other parent. Only rarely is it done to protect the child. But whatever the reason, family kidnapping endangers a child. The negative consequences can last a lifetime.

Family abductions are much more frequent than kidnapping by a stranger. But because you know who the potential kidnapper may be, there are preventive measures you can take. You'll find some suggestions on the next page, or visit our website: www.PollyKlaas.org for an in-depth discussion of warning signs and prevention measures.

What you can do

- Begin the custody process immediately if you and your child's other parent are separated.
- Assure your children that should they ever become separated from you they should attempt to contact you because you will always be looking for them.
- Teach your children to be aware of their schedules of visitation with each parent.
- Ensure your children know your phone number, how to reach you and that it is imperative for them to call if their visitation schedule changes.
- Teach your child his or her full name, your name, address, city, state, country and telephone number.
- Consider counseling. As little as ten hours can reduce the risk of abduction.
- Respect your ex-partner's custody and visitation rights.
- Maintain relationships with your ex-partner's family and friends.
- Keep current copies of all court documents and provide them to your children's day care and schools.
- Record and document abduction threats. Report them to the courts or your lawyer immediately.
- Keep lists of identifying information about the other parent. Complete the Child ID folder in this kit and keep it in a safe place.

The Polly Klaas® Foundation has compassionate and professional caseworkers who can help you prevent family kidnapping or recover a child who has been taken by a family member.

If you have any reason to believe your child is in danger of family kidnapping, contact us immediately at **800-587-4357**.

www.PollyKlaas.org





P.O. Box 800
Petaluma, CA 94953

Dear Friend,

Thank you for ordering a Child Safety Kit from the Polly Klaas Foundation.

Since our inception in 1993, we have assisted over 9,000 families to search for their missing children. Of these missing child cases we have a 99% recovery rate which is truly remarkable.

This is due in large part to the thousands of volunteers who help us to post Missing Child Posters across our nation and who share missing child posts through social media. If you would like to become a volunteer at this capacity we welcome you to join our Rapid Response Team! Simply visit PollyKlaas.org and click on the “Get Involved” link.

In addition to our Rapid Response volunteers we have an incredibly dedicated staff and on-call volunteers who work with families during one of the most difficult times of their lives. Imagine having someone you could call on 24/7 to seek advice and support in the event your child was missing—this is at the heart of what we do every day and night—we never close.

800-587-4357



We strive to assist families with helpful information to keep their children from going missing in the first place. Internet safety is a large part of safety for children who use social media and electronic forms of communication. This is an ever-evolving effort as social media outlets continue to change rapidly. Please be sure to visit us online for access to the most recent updates on this important topic.

Lastly, the Polly Klaas Foundation is a not-for-profit 501 c 3. We do not charge for our services and rely entirely on the support of individuals, corporations and foundations to fund our operations. Thank you for considering making a tax-deductible donation towards our efforts—together we will continue to keep kids safe and help those who are missing to return home!

Sincerely,

Raine Howe

Raine Howe
Executive Director



Our Values

- We cherish children and protect them every way we can.
- We value the uniqueness of each family and provide exceptional service with respect, compassion, and discretion.
- We help the community meet its responsibility to keep children safe.
- We foster relationships and networks critical to keeping children safe.
- Every family has the right to receive our services, materials, and resources free of charge.
- We value creativity and work to increase the scope, quality, and depth of our service.
- We value the *power of hope* and will provide a lifeline to families as long as they need us.

Our services

The Polly Klaas® Foundation is a national nonprofit that helps find missing children and prevents children from going missing.

- Our hotline is open 24/7 for families of missing children and law enforcement officers working to find missing kids.
- We distribute tens of thousands of Child Safety Kits throughout the world each year. We publish a monthly online newsletter with timely safety information that helps parents teach their children how to be safer.
- We help pass laws like Amber Alert that prevent child abductions and find missing children.



*Polly Hannah Klaas
1981–1993*

Our history

We started this work in 1993 when thousands of volunteers from the San Francisco Bay Area and around the world responded to the kidnapping of 12-year-old Polly Klaas, and joined in an unprecedented two-month international search. Although the outcome was tragic, we were determined to prevent future abductions and to offer the priceless lessons we learned in Polly's search to other families in need. Out of this tragedy, the Polly Klaas® Foundation was born.

How you can help

Your financial support is needed. The Polly Klaas® Foundation is funded almost entirely by private donations. We are able to continue this important work only because of donations from people like you. More than 80% of our funding directly supports our mission. Donate online at www.PollyKlaas.org or use the envelope in this book.



Making America Safe for All Children

P.O. Box 800
Petaluma, CA 94953

800-587-4357

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Petaluma, CA

The Polly Klaas® Foundation is a Petaluma-based national nonprofit dedicated to the safety of all children, the recovery of missing children, and public policies that keep children safe in their communities.

If your child ever goes missing

- Don't wait
- Call 9-1-1 immediately
- Conduct a quick search of the area
- Give this ID kit to the police
- Call the Polly Klaas® Foundation at **800-587-4357**

Not for Resale