

TALKING WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE

TALK ABOUT GOOD BOUNDARIES WHEN YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT OTHER TOPICS.

Today a mean kid at school made fun of my friend...

Tell your friend you don't agree with the mean kid. It is important to support your friends, especially if someone is hurting them or touching them.

TELL YOUR CHILD THAT IT IS OK TO SAY "NO".

If uncle or grandma want to hug or kiss you, or touch your body you can always tell them 'no.'

"But won't they be mad at me?"

"You can do whatever you are OK with. Maybe a nice smile or high-five? Remember, it's OK to say "no" if you are uncomfortable...even to adults in charge."

MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD KNOWS THAT SOME BODY PARTS ARE PRIVATE.

"The parts of your body under your bathing suit are private. No one can touch those parts unless you say so, and a grown-up shouldn't ask you to touch their private parts, either."

"But what if we're playing a game?"

"It's not OK, even if it's a game. If it happens tell a grown-up you trust right away."

TALK ABOUT SECRETS.

"Some secrets are OK to keep, like a surprise birthday party. But other secrets are important to share."

"Like what?"

"Like if someone asks you not to tell your parents something. If someone makes you scared or upset, it's okay to tell a grown-up you trust."

LET THEM KNOW THAT PICTURES ARE PRIVATE.

"If someone takes a picture of you when you don't want them to, that is not OK. If they want to take a picture of your private parts, that is not OK either."

"But what if they're my friend?"

"I still want you to tell me right away."