

## Neighborhood Safety

**Companion Text:** The Jakry Kids: Curiosity Shop, by Lin Jakary & illustrated by Ryan Olson

**Subject Area & Grade Level:** Social Studies, Kindergarten

### Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Evaluate proposed actions as safe or unsafe
- List ways to be safe in their neighborhood
- Name adults in the community who would be safe to approach for help

### Introduction

Read the story once through without stopping. Point out that though it is not a true story, we can learn things from the story about the real world. Tell students you are going to ask them about some of the choices the Jakry kids made in the story. Then, go through each of following actions one by one, and ask students to say whether they thought the action was safe or unsafe:

- Crossing the street at the light (safe)
- Waving to a police officer (safe)
- Going into an unfamiliar place without an adult (unsafe)
- Inviting a stranger to follow you home (unsafe)
- Having friends over without your parents knowing, or when they are not home (unsafe)
- Telling the truth to your parents, even if it's strange (safe)
- Opening the door to your home without looking to see who it is first (unsafe)

### Procedure

Ask students if they can think of any additional ways to be safe in their neighborhoods other than the ways mentioned in the book. In addition to those actions listed above, be sure to include:

- Not touching power lines or electrical boxes
- Looking both ways before crossing the street, even if you are crossing at a light
- Never, ever approaching a stranger's vehicle
- Never, ever taking anything from a stranger, especially food or drink
- Always being sure your parents/guardians know where you are and who you are with

### Discussion

Have students draw pictures of people outside of their family who would be safe to approach in a situation in which they needed help. These might be: bus drivers, security guards, police officers, teachers, principals, coaches, or their friends' parents. Help students write the title of each person at the bottom of their picture, and post all the pictures on a bulletin board with the title "Helpful People in Our Community."

