

Who can see or do something to my private body parts?

Talking Points for Parents & Care Givers



The issue...

After teaching children the proper names of their private body parts, the next lesson is helping them differentiate between times that it's okay... and when it's NOT okay... for someone to see or touch (i.e., "Do something to...") one of those private body parts. Sexual predators look for opportunities to be alone with their child victims and will also seek skin-on-skin contact. That's why the lessons in this video are so very important to share with kids so they can make begin to make that differentiation for themselves and alert you (or another Safe Adult) if something ever happened.

Scenario practice...

The kids' worksheet that accompanies this video is designed for you to begin discussions around scenarios in which it is okay (and not okay) for someone to see or touch your child's private body parts. We invite you to use this worksheet as a launching pad to customize and create your own scenarios that may be more relevant to your child's life.

PLEASE NOTE: The reason we talk about "someone doing something to" a child's private body parts (rather than just saying "touching") is that children often equate touching with the use of "hands". The fact is, perpetrators may not use their hands to touch a child's private body parts... objects or even a perpetrator's other body parts (like his/her own privates, tongue, etc.) might be used to molest a child. So, expanding our definition and language beyond just using the word "touch" can help children better understand this concept.

- 1) Discuss the scenarios listed with your child... and think of new ones that might apply to you!
- 2) As you talk through these exercises, reinforce the need to for your child to let YOU or ANOTHER SAFE ADULT know if someone tries to see or touch their private body parts. Watch the "Believe Jeeves!" video about "Safe Adults" to help your child identify the safe adults in his/her life.

- 3) Discuss with your child what your family uses to take a bath or clean themselves after going to the bathroom. This is especially important when other people help your child with these activities. For more about the importance of using wash cloths or bath mitts (not to mention toilet paper and wipes!), watch our video for parents, “Sue Says... Washcloths Help Teach Sexual Abuse Prevention” at www.traversebaycac.org/sue-says-washcloths-help-teach-sexual-abuse-prevention.
- 4) Practice “NO!—RUN—TELL” with your child!
- 5) View other “Believe Jeeves!” videos to help teach and reinforce body safety messages that are important to helping protect your child from sexual abuse, bullying and more!

Do you have suggestions or ideas?

We are always eager to receive feedback and suggestions about ways to help protect children from sexual abuse. Please email us at Jeeves@traversebaycac.org with your ideas! Thank you!

How do I tell my child that Jeeves doesn't REALLY talk?

Kids are naturally curious, inquisitive and oh-so-smart, so you may find yourself fielding questions about Jeeves and his video series:

- “Can Jeeves really talk?”
- “Do other dogs talk?”
- “Do the other animals in Jeeves’ videos speak in real life?”

These are all excellent questions! You can respond to these inquiries by simply sharing:

“Jeeves has friends who help him speak on camera. But if he COULD talk, these are the things he would say and would want you to know.”
