

KEEPING GOD'S CHILDREN SAFE LESSON
LEVEL KINDERGARTEN

For the Catechist:
Background Information about the Lesson

- Scripture** God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them. And so it happened. God looked at everything he made, and he found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed-the sixth day. (Genesis: 1:27, 31)
- This scripture passage records that God created everything good. As the Author of all life, God made man and woman in His own image; therefore, the body is a gift from God which is to be respected by self and others.
- Catechism** Because the Holy Spirit is the anointing of Christ, it is Christ who, as the head of the Body, pours out the Spirit among his members to nourish, heal, and organize them in their mutual functions, to give them life, send them to bear witness, and associate them to his self-offering to the Father and to his intercession for the whole world. Through the Church's sacraments, Christ communicates His Holy and sanctifying Spirit to the members of his Body. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #739)
- Guidelines** God is the Creator and Protector of all life. He created the human body, thus, the body is a divine gift. God desires that the body be treated with respect and be protected from harm. The children will identify individuals known as trusted adults who help them care for their bodies and protect them from harm.
- Age Group** Children in this age-group typically have lively and vivid imaginations; are highly inquisitive; and learn best through concrete experience. Their attention span is usually about 20 minutes. Socially they are becoming less self-centered and more aware of the world and others. Usually they understand the moral concepts of "good" and "evil", but are still very dependent on others in making moral judgments. Children of this age also have a growing awareness of gender and body part differences. In the presentation of this lesson the catechist should make every effort to create an environment conducive to answering the children's questions about their safety and protection. This early experience of honesty and trust will set the stage for life-long relationships with significant adults. It is also incumbent upon the catechist to help the children identify trusted adults who care for and protect them.

KEEPING GOD’S CHILDREN SAFE
Level Kindergarten

Lesson Plan

Objectives

- Teach the children about respect for the body.
- Introduce private body parts.
- Identify trusted adults.
- Introduce touching safety.
- Identify safe and unsafe touches of their bodies.
- Learn the rules for safe touch.
- Learn appropriate responses to unsafe situations.

Vocabulary

respect, safe touch, unsafe touch, trusted adult

Materials

Pictures of Boy and Girl Paper Dolls (pages 5 & 6)
Crayons

LESSON

Opening Prayer

Sign of the Cross

Instruction

Having taught the children about the Holy Spirit, recall that the Holy Spirit:

- is God, the third person of the Trinity
- lives within us
- gives us grace
- helps us to respect and care for all of God’s creation

The review of these faith facts provides a natural transition to the “Keeping God’s Children Safe Lesson” within the Religious Education setting.

Distribute to the children:

- a copy of the boy paper doll in bathing suit
- a copy of the girl paper doll in bathing suit.

Hang a copy of each picture in the front of the room.

Allow time for the children to color their pictures.

Ask the children to remember “Who” lives within them. (Holy Spirit or God)

Ask the children to recall why God’s life in them makes them special?

Remind the children that they are children of God and deserve respect.

Define respect for the children.

Ask the children how others show respect to them.

Ask the children how they show respect to others.
Remind the children that their bodies are made by God and are good.

Using the pictures of the boy and girl in bathing suits as guides, explain to the children that there are special parts of the body that are called “private parts.” These parts are the parts that are covered by a bathing suit.

Tell the children that no one has the right to touch your private body parts, except for a few trusted adults.

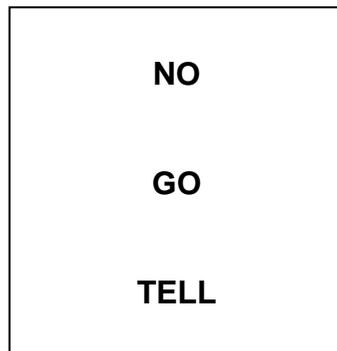
Explain to the children that trusted adults are their doctor, nurse or parents. Even then, the only reason a trusted adult should touch your private body parts is to keep you healthy and clean, and only if you are not able to do this for yourself.

Ask the children, “What should you do if someone wants to touch your private body parts or asks you to touch their private body parts?”

Accept age appropriate answers.

Introduce the rules for personal safety.

On a chalk board or poster, write the words: No, Go, Tell.



Remind the children again that no one has the right to touch them in unsafe ways.

Explain to the children that there are three very important rules of safety.

Point to the board or poster.

If someone tries to touch your private body parts:

- **NO**—Say “No!” to that person.
- **GO**—Go away if someone makes you feel uncomfortable or tries to touch your private body parts. If it is safe, move away from this person and try to get to another place.
- **TELL**— Tell a trusted adult if someone tried to touch your private body parts.

Introduce the concept of trusted adults.

A trusted adult is a safe adult who would never intentionally hurt, confuse, or scare them. A trusted adult is someone who would help them.

If someone is hurting you, you should tell a trusted adult.

Ask the children:

Who would you tell?

Who would be your trusted adult?"

Conclusion

Review the rules for personal safety again.

No

Go

Tell

Ending Prayer

O God,
Please keep me safe
and protected from harm.
Amen.

