

Stranger Safety Lesson Plan: Where Do You Stand?

(Grades 9-12, 45 minutes)

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to identify what information is safe to share with strangers online, in person, or over the phone.

Preparations:

Group chairs/desks into three distinct groups. Label one as “I’d share with anyone,” “I’d only share with people I know well,” and “I’d share with people whom I am acquainted.”

Lesson

Introduction: As a teenager, you will be asked on many occasions to provide personal information. Examples include job applications, college applications, opening bank accounts, and creating online accounts. Knowing what information to share with whom and when can save you from having your identity stolen, your heart broken, your reputation ruined, and being in dangerous situations.

- Ask for examples of personal information a stranger might ask for in any scenario, write them in a space visible to the entire group. Examples include last name, phone number, age, gender, and address.

Activities:

1. Where Do You Stand?
 - a. Direct students to look at all of the examples shared in the Introduction.
 - b. Each student must decide if he/she would generally feel comfortable sharing this information with anyone who asks, only share with people they know well, or share with people they are familiar with. Once they have made a choice, each student should sit in the appropriately labeled grouping of chairs/desks.
 - i. For the purposes of this activity ‘anyone’ can be defined as any person known or unknown to you, ‘people I know well’ can be defined as those you have had multiple in person encounters with and know personal information about, and ‘acquaintances’ can be defined as people you have seen before, heard of, or can easily identify as a professional.
 - c. Students in each grouping should discuss why they each chose that grouping and create a list of the pros and cons of their attitude toward sharing information.
 - d. Groups can then come together as one large group and share their pro/con lists.

Learning Outcomes:

Students should make note of any occasion over the next week when they are asked for personal information by a stranger.