

Kalona Public Library

KPL Newsletter: Vol. 2 Issue 2 Summer 2013

Strangers

Tips to keep our kids safe

Summer's underway and the weather is getting nicer...I think! The kids are already in and out, and parents will begin thinking seriously about installing a revolving door. I talk to friends and fellow parents who are all too aware of the hidden dangers in letting their children out loose in the neighborhood. It's a Catch 22; you want to give your child freedom to explore and establish some independence, but you are reticent to do so because the nice weather could bring out seedier characters. That's part of being a parent, I know, but there are still talks about "the white van," Kathlyn Shepard and other recent abductions here in Iowa. We can still have fun with our kids and give them some freedom while teaching them some important steps that can be taken to help prevent the unthinkable.

Define a stranger There are good strangers and bad strangers. There are also "telephone" and "doorbell" strangers. Strangers might call and come by the house for adults or approach kids while out and kids should

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Get Outside...

Step-by-step guide on how to get outside

All too often, we set the bar too high or are too wary of things that might get us. Enjoy nature, but beware of ticks, mosquitos or dog poo and get out the door!

I said to my son and his friend, "Let's go outside." My son's friend said, "What do you have?" I thought for a second; perplexed, I said, "Dirt...grass...air" It takes a lot to get me up and out. What I find works for me is to just open the door and go outside. No plans, no destination; just go outside. For someone who is agitated by the random fly, the gnats that have ascended upon us this summer are almost enough to

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Upcoming Events

Super Summer Fun

June & July (Mondays) 4:30PM

Lego Fun

June 20 1PM
(4&6 graders)

Movie & Fun: Raiders of the Lost Arc

July 5, 12, 19, 26 10:30 AM

Toddler Time

July 25 12 PM

Summer Reading
Finale Party with
Ronald McDonald

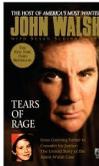


Coming Soon: Zinio

Magazines without all that Recycling

Reading...right? Who's got the time?

You will when Zinio, "The World's Largest Newsstand," comes to Kalona Public Library. Available to read on your computer and mobile devices, you can pick from a selection of 10 magazines...the whole magazine in digital, PDF: from cover to the ads in the back. This service is available to KPL patrons from Kalona, Riverside, and rural Washington County. Visit the link below and check out Washington County's Zinio: <https://www.rbdigital.com/washingtonia/service/zinio/landing>



Tears of Rage by John Walsh

Book Review by Karolyn McLaughlin

Tears of Rage is about the kidnapping and murder of Adam Walsh. John Walsh is known for hosting the show *America's Most Wanted*. I remember growing up and watching his show and my parents mentioning that his son had been killed and that was why he had started the show. I hadn't realized until this year all the things that Mr. Walsh and his family had gone through. This story reminds me that there are bad people out there and that if you haven't taught your kids about what to do when there are strangers, or even when you do teach them that might not always keep them safe.

Produced by Tom McLaughlin

Strangers



Get Outside...

Tips to keep our kids safe (cont'd)

know what the various rules are about answering the door, the phone and interactions outdoors.

Set Boundaries/Have a plan Make sure your kids know where they can and can't go and when they can and can't go there. If your kids walk to and from places, know your kids' routes; Check them periodically. Establish safe houses around the neighborhood or along walking routes. Practice with your children about what to do when a car or stranger approaches, such as stay away, keep walking and be rude. Passwords are also a good idea so the kids know the person stopping by picking them up or calling is safe.

School Counselor Danielle Kennedy said that the most common questions she receives are "what if..." questions. You teach your kids to be nice and courteous, but there are times when that could actually be a mistake. She said that kids need to trust that "uh-oh" voice and to **be safe and rude**; if a stranger talks to or approaches them, just ignore them and keep walking. In the book *Scoop* by Julia Cook, kids are given the following advice: be **Smart**, use your **Call list**, **zero** talking to strangers, keep strangers **Out** of your personal space, and always **Pair up**.

Follow this advice and hopefully the bugs will be the only pests you have to deal with this summer.

The mission of the Kalona Public Library is to provide information and materials of general interest free to the public in a pleasant and helpful environment where people can meet, and receive help for lifelong learning.

drive me back inside. And that's okay. I take baby steps. I go back inside; have a do over. There are benefits to being outside; I know that by spending hours inside and then going outside for a period of time I just...feel different (at least not as lazy because I was 'outside'.)

I have a step by step guide for parents like me who are chained to the computer or TV screen or just don't like going outside. Kind of like jumping in the cold water or ripping off the Band-Aid.

1. Open the door
2. Place one foot out the door
3. Repeat with other foot
4. Close the door
5. Partake in your choice of activity

Summer, every single moment is worth its weight in gold; Summer is like the world's best story; And it's waiting to be told; It's ice cream cones and cherry soda; Dripping down your chin; It's summer; Man, where do we begin?

Phineas and Ferb Lyrics from <http://www.elyrics.net>



Image from: <http://images.wikia.com/phineasandferb/images/e/e7/>

Kalona Public Library Contact Information

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On the clock: Mon-Thurs 9:30–8:00 Friday 9:30–5:00 Saturday 9:30–3:00; closed on Sundays