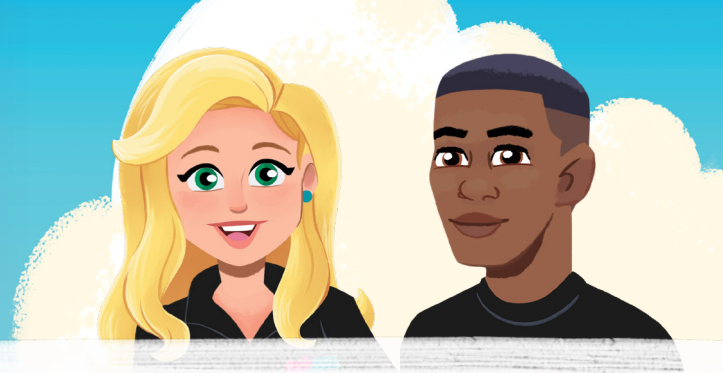




Safer, Smarter  
FAMILIES

# GRADES 3-5

PRESENTED BY:  LAUREN'S KIDS



## STEPS TO SAFETY: RESPECTING BODY BOUNDARIES

Your child's **personal space** is the space that surrounds them. Their **body boundaries** are the rules they have for the touches that feel safe and unsafe to them. If someone is too close to your child, that person is invading your child's personal space. If someone touches your child in a way that makes them feel unsafe, uncomfortable, icky, threatened, or in a way that involves the private parts of their body, that is a body boundary violation.

### HELPING YOUR CHILD UNDERSTAND REPORTING BODY BOUNDARY VIOLATIONS

**Step 1:** Help your child understand that their body is special and belongs to them. If someone is too close, it is a personal space violation. If someone touches them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable, icky, or not quite right, it is a body boundary violation. If someone touches the private parts of their body, it is also a body boundary violation.

**Step 2:** Talk with your child about the difference between tattling and reporting.

**Tattling** - a complaint about someone that does not involve your safety

**Reporting** - telling about something that involves your safety

**Step 3:** Teach your child that they have the power to say, "Stop, you're in my personal space" any time someone is too close to them. If that person does not listen, your child should go tell an adult and make a report. Communicate the importance of reporting any body boundary violation to a trusted adult in their Safety NETWORK. Ensure that your child understands that any body boundary violation threatens their safety. Anytime your child's safety is threatened, they need to report that to a trusted adult, and they need to keep reporting until they are heard and helped.

**Step 4:** Believe and support your child if they report a body boundary violation to you. You are their trusted adult, and they are depending on you to hear them and help them.

