



Safer, Smarter
FAMILIES

GRADES K-2

PRESENTED BY:  LAUREN'S KIDS



TATTLING VS. REPORTING

Directions: Use the scenarios below to help your child think about the difference between **tattling** and **reporting**.

1. You are on the playground and you see your friend walking on the top of the swing set!

- Ask your child, "What should you do?"
- Tell your child that they should tell their Grown-Up Buddy.
- Ask them, "Who is your Grown-Up Buddy on the playground?" **Answer:** "Right, your teacher!"
- Ask your child, "Is this tattling or reporting?" **Answer:** "Reporting, because it is dealing with your friend's safety."

2. You have free classroom time to color and your friend won't share the green crayon, but you need to finish coloring the grass in your picture!

- Ask your child, "Is this a safety situation?" **Answer:** "That's right, this situation does not involve safety."
- Ask your child how they would try to handle the situation on their own by using their words; e.g., ask their friend to share.
- If the friend still will not share, tell your child to ask their Grown-Up Buddy for help.

3. You are at the baseball field and a ball goes over the fence. Your friend jumps over the fence and leaves the group to go get the lost ball.

- Ask your child, "What should you do?"
- Remind your child to tell their Grown-Up Buddy.
- Ask your child, "Is this tattling or reporting?" **Answer:** "Reporting, because it is dealing with your friend's safety."

4. You are working in class and your friend keeps touching your paper. It is really bothering you.

- Ask your child, "What should you do?"
- Tell them that they should ask their friend to stop.

- Ask your child, "Should you tell your teacher?" **Answer:** "No, because your safety is not in danger."
- Encourage your child to try to handle the situation on their own by using their words; e.g., ask their friend to stop. If the friend still will not stop, tell your child to ask their Grown-Up Buddy for help.

5. You are trying to cross the monkey bars, but your classmate keeps pulling your legs and making you fall. You asked him to stop, but now he is doing it to your friend.

- Ask your child, "Is this a safe or an unsafe touch?" **Answer:** "It is an unsafe touch, because your safety is in danger."
- Ask your child, "What do you do when you have an unsafe touch?" **Answer:** "That's right, you immediately go tell your Grown-Up Buddy."
- Ask your child, "Is this tattling or reporting?" **Answer:** "Reporting, because it is dealing with your friend's safety."

6. Your babysitter plays what she calls a "special game" with you and has touched you in a way that has made you feel icky. The babysitter told you not to tell your mother about this special game that you are playing and that all kids play this game.

- Ask your child, "Is this an unsafe touch?" **Answer:** "It is an unsafe touch because your safety is in danger."
- Ask your child, "Is this an unsafe secret?" **Answer:** "It is an unsafe secret because it makes you feel icky and you have been told not to tell."
- Ask your child, "What should you do?" **Answer:** "Tell a parent or a Grown-Up Buddy immediately."
- Ask your child, "Is this tattling or reporting?" **Answer:** "Reporting, because it is dealing with your safety."