

Talking About School Safety With Kids: Resources for Every Age

Worried about talking to your elementary, middle, or high school student about school safety? Here are some tips for talking with your child when needed. Keep conversations calm, age-appropriate, and reassuring. Start by asking what they already know and how they feel. Use simple language and emphasize the safety measures in place at school - like drills and responsible adults. Validate their feelings and let them know it's okay to be scared by what they might see on TV or other media. If they have questions, answer honestly but avoid graphic details. Most importantly, offer them love and support. Remember, open communication is key. If you need more help, check out child psychology resources online or reach out to your school counselor or social worker. ❤️

Here are some age-specific resources to guide you as you have conversations and guide your school-aged child.

- Parent Guidance for Age-Appropriate Conversations:
- Video Resources
 - ["How to talk to your kids about school violence"](#)
 - [GMA-"Coping With Tragedy"](#)
 - Sesame Street: Provides information and resources on helping young children cope with difficult emotions, including a video on community violence. [Rosita & Alan Talk About Community Violence](#)
- Print Resources:
 - All Ages: NASP-National Association of School Psychologists: [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Families and Educators](#)
 - For Middle and High School: The Jed Foundation: Offers resources for tweens and teens on mental health and coping with difficult situations, including a guide on "Talking to Tweens and Teens About Gun Violence":<https://jedfoundation.org/whats-the-best-way-to-talk-about-gun-violence-with-kids/>
 - If you have concerns about your student and need extra support or resources, please contact your student's school.
 - Kim Van Sickle, School Counselor: L-M Elementary
 - Tana Fourdyce, School Social Worker: L-M Jr/Sr High
 - Cathy Jackson, School Counselor: L-M Jr/Elementary