

# To the Teachers

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There can be little doubt your days and weeks of providing a learning experience for your students are perilously close to being overloaded with concerns about instruction, discipline and testing. National Standards? Addressing them right here! State Standards? Implicit in this lesson!

Your plan books are full of lesson after lesson geared towards bringing each student to a new level of expertise and preparing them for those standardized tests that impact your evaluation. The pressures on you are immense. Time is a dauntless opponent. Finding more time for test prep, teaching perhaps a collaborative class, dealing with increases in class size - why would any professional willingly accept more on their plate?

The answer is simple: **Over 21,000 children are abducted yearly in the United States by complete strangers.** Those numbers must drop. Your help is both needed and necessary. The mission of *The Rose Brucia Educational Foundation* is to reduce the number of child abductions nationally. This organization, a 501(c)3 charity, was developed in response to the tragic abduction and murder of 11-year old Carlie Brucia of Sarasota, Florida in 2004. Its founder is Carlie's cousin. He found that much of the response to child abductions was reactive. He believes a concerted effort must be made to construct in children a skill set of personal safety techniques. He started a series of puppet shows designed to bring to children simple stories that highlight and reinforce safety lessons that he hoped had initially been taught by caretakers. In time, he realized that he wanted a more detailed academic approach to putting forth the Foundation's message. He sought to form a committee of educators: teachers, both retired and currently employed, administrators, college instructors and parents. He charged the committee with developing a cogent educational scheme to present the idea of *Stranger Safety Awareness*.

Here are the products of that work. The lessons were field tested in 13 elementary schools on Long Island, New York. Feedback was solicited from teachers, administrators and parents. The comments, where appropriate, were used to amend the lessons. The DVD or the download you have made contains objectives, methodology, summary statements, and scripted plans for you to follow should you choose to do so. Worksheets are included. Graphic organizers and pertinent data are also included. The Foundation hopes that it has made the implementation of this material relatively painless. Finding the time to put these lessons into your schedule is the problem. The Rose Brucia Educational Committee hopes that, after previewing the lessons, you will find them engaging and appropriate for use in your classroom.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of your students.

*The Rose Brucia Educational Committee*