

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

We all share a common goal for our children to be safe and protected from all things harmful. Related to that goal, school counselors are required to present annual personal safety lessons designed to prevent sexual abuse. The *Think First & Stay Safe™* program is a research-based program that teaches specific personal safety education by way of interactive classroom lessons, classroom posters, role playing and corresponding activities. *Think First & Stay Safe™* enables students to take an active and necessary role in protecting themselves from abuse and exploitation. A committee of professional school counselors reviewed the program and selected components that were developmentally appropriate for elementary students and developed lessons around those concepts.

During the months of January and February, our counselor will offer the sexual abuse prevention and safety lessons to all K-5 students. Due to the importance of this topic, I want you to know when and how you may preview the materials and when the counselor will be presenting this information to your child's class. The materials will be available for preview on Friday, January 10, 2020, from 9:30 to 10:30am. Please contact our counselor, Monica Mance, at 770-736-4430 to schedule a preview or if you have any questions or concerns.

You can also learn more about the detailed lesson plans and research behind this program at [www.childluresprevention.com](http://www.childluresprevention.com). Please be aware that more information is provided on the website than is actually used in Gwinnett County. The plan for Gwinnett includes the key concepts taught at all grade levels. Each grade reviews what was learned in the previous grade(s) and then learns additional lures or tricks. Specifics are provided below:

| Key Concepts    | You can use your built-in computer and make safe choices. | People are like the weather. Most are safe, but they can change. | Lures are tricks used to get children away from safe adults and safe place. | Laws help protect children and there are adults who can help you. |
|-----------------|---|--|---|---|
|                 | Your instincts help keep you safe.                        | A stranger is someone you don't know.                            | Someone may even use threats to trick you.                                  | No one can take away your dignity.                                |
| K               | Review key concepts                                       | Pet Lure   | Name Lure   |   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Review key concepts                                       | Assistance Lure  | Fun & Games Lure  | Affection Lure  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Review key concepts                                       | Bribery Lure   | Friendship Lure   |   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Review key concepts                                       | Emergency Lure   | Authority Lure  | Hero Lure   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Review key concepts                                       | Job Lure   | Ego/Fame Lure   | e-Lure & Drug Lure  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | Review key concepts                                       | Review All Lures   | Video: <i>Breaking the Silence</i>  |   |

If you prefer that your child not participate in the sexual abuse and safety prevention lessons, please write and sign a note indicating your preferences and send it to your child's teacher or school counselor. As always, the counselor is available to discuss any concerns you might have. **Unless written documentation is received, your child will participate in the sexual abuse prevention and safety lessons.**

Sincerely,

Melissa Madsen  
School Principal