



Dear Mom & Dad:

Thank you for downloading the Body Safety Maze.

Please sit down with your young child and enjoy this puzzle with them. The best time may be after you have had a talk about staying safe from sexual abuse.

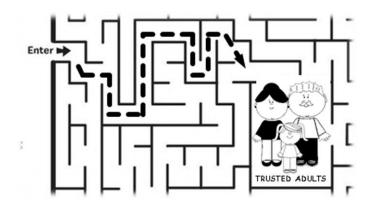
This puzzle is designed to help you review and reinforce some very important lessons:

- 1. Some parts of your body are private. Here is what they are called ... (Always use the correct names rather than made-up names!)
- 2. No one is allowed to touch your private parts, except to help you be clean (like in the bath or shower, or after using the toilet) or healthy (like when visiting the doctor). These touches are OK, and they are never secret.
- 3. If anyone touches your private parts at any other time, you should tell a parent or other trusted adult.
- 4. It is very hard for some kids to tell. The person who touched their private parts might have told them that it is OK, or that it is just a game. Or the person might have gotten the child to promise to keep it secret. These are just some of the tricks that abusers use.
- 5. Many children who are abused feel trapped by their fears. They are often afraid that they will be blamed for the abuse, or that they will not be believed, or that their family's life will be disrupted, or that the abuser may harm them or someone they care about.

 Instead of telling, children often decide to wait. They may find the situation too confusing, or they may hope that the abuse will simply stop. But if the abuser continues to have access to the child, the abuse may continue – possibly for years.

This often increases the child's fear, and makes it even harder to tell. It may also increase the psychological damage to the child, and make it harder for the child to recover.

7. The best thing for a child to do is to tell a parent or other trusted adult right away. Just as in this puzzle, the shortest and most direct route is best.



For more information and resources to help you keep children safe, please visit us at www.ecu.edu/tedibear.



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