Understanding Child Abuse

For Primary Students





Let 's Talk About Child Abuse!

- Most adults treat kids well, but some adults hurt kids rather than help them. Another word for hurting someone is "abuse."
 - A kid can be abused by...
 - a parent
 - a stepparent
 - another family member
 - a babysitter
 - teacher
 - coach
 - or another kid
- Child abuse can happen anywhere at home, school, childcare, at a friend's house, or even in a church or other religious building.



Physical Abuse

- Intentional actions resulting in injuries to a child or threats of such actions or concerns about physical injuries of an unexplained or suspicious nature.
- Hurting a child's body is called physical abuse. It can look like...
 - punching
 - beating
 - shaking
 - kicking

- biting
- throwing
- stabbing
- hitting

- burning
- choking
- bruising
- or otherwise harming a child.



Sexual Abuse

- Touching a kid's private body parts is called sexual abuse.
 - Your private parts are the parts covered by your bathing suit or underwear: breasts, vagina, and bottom for girls, and penis and bottom for boys. Evidence of injury to the genital area
 - If an adult or another kid touches a kid's private parts or tells a kid to touch theirs, it is wrong.
 - When this happens, the person might tell the kid that this touching is a secret and not to tell anyone. But a kid does not have to keep this secret.



Emotional Abuse

- Hurting a kid with mean words or lots of anger is verbal or emotional abuse.
- Suspect Emotional Abuse When You See:
 - This can happen if someone yells all the time, calls the kid mean names, or threatens to leave the kid or have them adopted.
 - It's normal for parents to get angry with their kids once in a while. But if there's yelling, punishing, and threatening too much of the time, kids can start feeling really bad about themselves.
 - It also hurts kids if they are ignored, or not given love. It's really important to tell a trusted adult this is happening.



Neglect

- Not giving kids the things they need to live is called neglect.
- Suspect Neglect When You See:
 - Neglect happens when kids live in a home where the adults don't give them basic stuff that all kids need. For example, not receiving the following:
 - Food
 - Clean clothes
 - A way to get to school every day
 - A bed or clean space to sleep in
 - checkups or medicine when they need them.



How to get help?

Tell Someone What Is Happening Right Away

- A kid who is being hurt should tell a trusted adult right away. No matter what the abuser says, abuse is always wrong and a kid can ask for and get help in a few different ways.
 - □ Tell an adult you trust.
 - Call 1-800-252-5400 to report abuse or at https://www.txabusehotline.org/
 - □ If you are in danger, call 911. Be sure to give information like your first name and address so they can get you help.
- If you know someone else who you think might be being abused, you can help by telling your parent or another adult, like a teacher or a doctor.

REMEMBER!



It's OK to tell!

if someone hurts you:

say
10



go



to a safe place

te a trusted adult



Call **1-800-252-5400** for help or **911** for emergencies

For more information: txabusehotline.org

Don't ever keep a secret that upsets you!

