A safe childhood is an adult responsibility.

Report abuse if:

**You Suspect Abuse**
You witness red-flag behaviors like crossing a child’s boundaries, but don’t have hard evidence of abuse.

1. **Be an Active Bystander**
   - by intervening with the offender on the child’s behalf:
     a. Describe the Behavior
     b. Set a Limit
     c. Move On

2. **Monitor the Situation**
   in case the offender keeps crossing boundaries; if they do,

**You Discover Abuse**
You witness a child being abused, someone tells you about an incident, or you find photo/video evidence online.

1. **Remain Calm** and don’t overreact.
   Showing anger toward the offender or asking leading questions may distress the child and discourage them from further sharing.

2. **Offer Support** by listening and comforting the child. The most important words you can say are, “I believe you,” and “it’s not your fault.”

3. **Report. Contact the police and your state’s child protective services.**
   Remember that the law doesn’t require you to have evidence when reporting child sexual abuse, it only requires reasonable suspicion. To make a good faith report, provide:
   - the child’s name, age, and address
   - the nature of the abuse or the reason for reporting
   - the parents’ name and contact, if known
   - the name of the perpetrator, if known

**A Child Discloses Abuse**
A child reveals to you that they have experienced sexual abuse or are currently being abused.

For more information visit www.D2L.org