

Keeping kids safe in crowds

OSF HealthCare Newsroom

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BROADCAST SCRIPT

ANCHOR INTRO

AS TRICK-OR-TREATING NEARS – AND WITH HOLIDAY FESTIVALS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER – IT’S IMPORTANT TO KEEP KID’S SAFETY AT THE TOP OF MIND.

TAKE VO

BUT YOU DON’T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL YOU GET TO THE EVENT TO HAVE A SAFETY PLAN IN PLACE. DR. KYLE BOERKE – A CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST WITH OSF HEALTHCARE – SAYS CONVERSATIONS SHOULD BE HAD BEFORE LEAVING THE HOUSE.

TAKE SOT

“Those conversations should surround what I call the ‘proximity rule’ or the ‘distance rule.’ There are going to be different distance rules for different settings,” Dr. Boerke says. “If I’m going to an event that’s going to be very crowded, that proximity rule should probably be for younger aged kids to be holding their caregiver’s hand.”

VO TAG

DR. BOERKE ADDS WHEN IT COMES TO KIDS RUNNING OFF AND PLAYING WITH THEIR FRIENDS – IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE COMFORT LEVEL OF THE PARENTS. HE SAYS IN SOME CASES – IT’S OK TO ALLOW THE PROXIMITY RULE TO BECOME AN AREA RULE. HE ALSO RECOMMENDS DESIGNATING A MEETUP PLACE IN CASE YOU AND CHILD GET SEPARATED.

VO/SOT #2

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BUT YOU DON’T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL YOU GET TO THE EVENT TO HAVE A SAFETY PLAN IN PLACE. DR. KYLE BOERKE – A CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST WITH OSF HEALTHCARE – SAYS CONVERSATIONS SHOULD BE HAD BEFORE LEAVING THE HOUSE. EITHER BEFORE THE EVENT OR ONCE YOU ARRIVE – DESIGNATE A MEETUP PLACE IN CASE YOU AND YOUR CHILD GET SEPARATED. DR. BOERKE SAYS IF YOUR CHILD IS FULL OF ENERGY AND TENDS TO RUN OFF EASILY – IT’S IMPORTANT TO DEVELOP STRICTER GUIDELINES FOR GOING OUT TO PUBLIC EVENTS.

TAKE SOT

“We need to be holding hands, at that point. If you do need to reach into your purse or get your wallet out for something, have them hang on to the belt loop on your pants or hang on to the stroller that you’re with. Make sure to set those expectations as early as possible,” Dr. Boerke emphasizes.

VO TAG

DR. BOERKE ADDS A GREAT WAY TO KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE AT AN EVENT – IS TO TAKE A PICTURE OF THEM BEFORE THE EVENT. THAT WAY – IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY – YOU CAN LOOK AT YOUR PHONE TO SEE WHAT YOUR CHILD IS WEARING DURING WHAT CAN BE A VERY STRESSFUL TIME.