

PRAESIDIUM

Our Passion. Your Protection.

ACTION PLAN

ABUSE
PREVENTION
REFRESHER

Overview



In this course, you will learn:

- How sexual abuse occurs in organizations.
- How to use red flags to keep kids safe.
- How to prevent false allegations of abuse.
- How to prevent sexual activity between children.
- How to apply what you know.

Lesson 1: Understanding Sexual Abuse in Organizations



Adults Who Abuse Children

In this course, you learned that adult employees and volunteers can abuse children and that other adults who have access to children can abuse. Take a moment to list other adults who may be on the organization's premises (contractors, vendors, parents, etc.).



What Do You Think?

True or False? Females never molest children. _____

True or False? Perpetrators may be any age. _____

True or False? Child molesters usually molest children who are the same gender as they are. _____



What are some effects of abuse on children?



How does abuse happen?

What three things enable a molester to harm a child?

Fill in the blank below.

Access, _____, and Control.



Boundaries

How do abusers violate the following boundaries to get control of children?

Physical: _____

Emotional: _____

Behavioral: _____



What is “community grooming?”

Lesson 2: Using Red Flags to Keep Kids Safe



Using Red Flags to Keep Kids Safe

There are four steps to using red flags to keep kids safe:

1. Know what red flags are.
2. Keep your eyes open.
3. Take action.
4. Don't talk yourself out of it.



1. Know What Red Flags Are

What is a red flag? What are some examples of red flags to watch for?



2. Keep Your Eyes Open

There are three things you need to watch for:

- Interactions between adults and children
- High-risk locations
- High-risk activities



Draw lines to match the things you need to watch for (on the left) and two examples of these things (on the right).

Interactions between adults and children

A co-worker often spends time alone with a certain child

Swimming

High-risk locations

Bathrooms

Free time or less organized times

High-risk activities

An isolated room

A volunteer gives gifts to one child



3. Take Action

If you notice red flags, you must act using these steps:

1. Interrupt the action.
2. Explain what you saw that concerns you.
3. Suggest an alternative way to interact.
4. Report your observation to your supervisor.
5. Make sure the situation doesn't happen again.



Take Action: Example

Imagine you see an adult and a child in a red-flag situation. For instance, perhaps you come across them in an isolated room where they should not be. Think about how you would use the five steps above to take action. What would you do? What would you say?



4. Don't Talk Yourself Out of It

You may be afraid to get involved in the situation. Here are some common excuses for talking yourself out of it.

“What if I get in trouble for saying something?”

“I’m certain my co-worker can be trusted.”

“What if I’m wrong?”

Bottom line? You have a responsibility as an employee or volunteer, and as an adult, to protect the children within your care. It’s better to report than to regret.

Lesson 3: Preventing False Allegations



What is a false allegation?

A false allegation is when someone is accused of doing something he or she did not do.



Preventing False Allegations

Following four simple steps can prevent false allegations of abuse.

Use these words to fill in the blanks in the four steps below:

boundaries, electronic, alone, policies

1. Know and follow your organization’s _____.
2. Keep your _____ with kids clear and strong.
3. Avoid being _____ with a lone child.
4. Avoid unmonitored or unauthorized _____ communications with children.

Lesson 4: Preventing Sexual Activity Between Children



Peer sexual abuse is when a child is taken advantage of by another child—or feels unable to refuse sexual activity.



Sexual Curiosity vs. Abuse

Do you need to decide if an incident is normal sexual curiosity or peer-to-peer sexual abuse?

Circle the correct answer.

Yes No



Why does sexual activity between children happen?

Aside from normal sexual curiosity, there are other reasons why children may act out sexually.

Describe how each reason could occur:

1. Preference: _____

2. Developmental differences: _____

3. Sexual response to a non-sexual problem: _____

4. History of sexual abuse: _____



Preventing Sexual Activity Between Children

How can you prevent sexual activity between children?

Use these words to fill in the blanks in the statements below:

increased, children, happens, educate, activities

1. Know that sexual abuse between children _____.

2. Know who may be at _____ risk to act out sexually or be abused.

3. Monitor high-risk areas and _____.

4. _____ co-workers and parents when an incident or near-incident occurs.

5. Teach _____ ways to stay safe.

