

Pointers For Parents

Child Education: A Community Effort

(NAPSA)—Although families are continuously on the go, one thing is permanently on parents' minds—keeping their children safe.

More than 2,000 children are reported missing every day. Thankfully, Sylvan is offering parents a helping hand by disseminating McGruff® The Crime Dog safety tips during “Sylvan Safety Days”—beginning in October 2006 at participating Sylvan Learning Centers.

The leading provider of in-center and live, online tutoring at home to students of all ages and skill levels, Sylvan is committed to improving the safety of our communities. “Sylvan gives students the skills and confidence they need to do better in school and in life and, with this initiative, we’re also helping to keep families safe,” says Richard Bavaria, Ph.D., vice president of education for Sylvan Learning Center.

The following are helpful tips for staying safe throughout the year.

School Season

- Visit the school bus stop with your children and learn the bus number and route.

- Tell your child to be aware of his surroundings and walk in well-lit areas and never take shortcuts.

- Teach your children that if anyone tries to force them into a car or walk with them, they should run and yell, “This person is trying to kidnap me” and make a scene by kicking and screaming.

- Children should never leave school with anyone they don't know. Have a family “safety word” so children can confirm that a trusted adult was sent to take them home.

- Practice safety tips with your children and ensure they understand your rules. Make walking to



the school bus a “teachable moment” by pointing out “safe places.”

Throughout the Year

- Know where your children are and who they are with at all times.

- Children should know their address and telephone number and how to reach a trusted adult in an emergency.

- Teach children to trust their instincts and tell an adult if anything makes them feel scared or uncomfortable.

- Participate in your children's activities. There is no substitute for your attention and supervision.

Special Fall Promotion

Beginning in October 2006, families who enroll in Sylvan educational programs will have the opportunity to receive a free LG Migo phone—with a new Verizon Wireless activation. Designed for 5-12-year-olds, the phone provides a fast, reliable communication link between parents and their children. LG Migo has a dedicated 911 emergency button and four fast-dial keys that parents can preprogram so children can get in touch with family members as needed. Sylvan will distribute up to 25,000 phones between October and December 2006. To learn more, call 1-800-31-SUCCESS or visit www.educate.com/phone.