

BILLY & MOLLY'S

Safe Adventure



In association with:



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Once upon a time, there was a boy called Billy who was 11. He had a sister, Molly, who was 10 and they lived with their mam and dad in a small village in Washington.

Their grandparents, Mr and Mrs Potter, lived just outside the village, in a very old house, which had a long garden path.

Lots of Mr and Mrs Potter's neighbours were also older and sometimes had trouble getting out of their houses in the winter.

One particularly cold morning, snow began falling. Molly got up early and woke Billy. She said to him:

"It's been a while since we've been to see grandma and grandad. Shall we ask mam if we can go to see them by ourselves?"

Billy thought this was a great idea and quickly jumped out of bed. He got washed and dressed, putting on his warmest clothes and wellington boots.

They hurried to see their mother to find out if she would let them go to see their grandparents on their own.

She loved the idea, but was worried about them going on their own as there was a busy road to cross.

At school, Molly had just been taught about the Green Cross Code and said she knew what to do.

"I will find a safe place to cross, stand on the pavement and look for traffic. If traffic is coming I'll let it pass, but if there is no traffic near, I'll walk across the road."



"I will never run across the road and will keep looking and listening for traffic while I cross."

"That's excellent, but there are other things you need to be careful of such as Stranger Danger!" their mother explained.

"I know all about that," said Billy. "We've had a talk at Scouts. Can I tell you what I know?"

"Yes, of course," said his mam.

This is what Billy told his mam they should do:

- Never accept gifts or sweets from strangers.
- Never accept a lift in a car from a stranger.
- Never go anywhere with a stranger.
- Never go off on your own without telling a parent or guardian.

- Always tell someone if a stranger has spoken to you.
- Always remember the yell, run, tell rule. It's O.K. to run and scream if you find yourself in danger. Get away as fast as you can.
- If you find yourself in danger always run towards shops or other busy places with lots of people.
- If you think you're being followed, go into a shop or knock on the door of a house and ask for help.
- Never play in dark or lonely places, stay with groups of friends.
- Never agree to do a job for someone you don't know in return for money - they could be trying to trick you.
- Make sure your parents know where you are going and when you will be back.
- Don't make friends on Facebook and Bebo with people who you don't know or recognise.

"That's great," said mam, "as long as you both remember those rules, I'm sure you will both stay safe."

She then gave them a bag containing the bread and milk their grandparents had asked for and said: "Have you thought about taking anything with you for your grandma and grandad?"

The pair raced upstairs to their rooms, coming back a few minutes later with warm woolly scarves to help keep their grandparents warm. They then put their hats and gloves on ready to say goodbye to their mam and dad.

Dad said: "Now be careful and remember what we talked about to stay safe."

Excitedly, Billy and Molly left their home to begin their adventure to grandma and grandad's house.

On their journey they needed to cross a busy road, walk through a subway and cross a small wood. The first thing they came to was the busy road.

Billy said: "I can remember some of the Green Cross Code like, find a safe place to cross,

stand on the pavement and look for traffic, but I can't remember the rest."

"I know," said Molly. "Remember if traffic is coming we must let it go past. When there is no traffic near, we walk across the road, looking and listening for traffic as we cross."

"Yes," said Billy, "I remember now."

Together, they safely crossed the road, holding hands and using the Green Cross Code.

At last, they came to the subway. It was brightly lit and covered in bright wall paintings.

There was some litter in the subway which made it look untidy, Billy and Molly made sure they put their rubbish in the nearby bin.



They carried on walking to their grandparent's house, reaching the woods.

Billy said: "I can see lots of people walking their dogs. Now remember what mam told us about staying together and Stranger Danger."

As they walked through the wood together a small dog ran up to them and they stopped to make a fuss of it.

The dog was soon joined by a man and woman who Billy and Molly did not know.

"Hello, this is our dog Glen," said the woman.

"Hello," said Molly.

The man said: "We often come to this area to walk Glen and we haven't seen you before."

Molly was about to answer when Billy said: “Remember what we talked about before we left the house? Grandma and grandad are waiting for us.”

Immediately, Molly thought about Stranger Danger and remembered how important it was not to talk to strangers.

“Sorry, we’ve got to go,” she said to the man and woman, and she and Billy carried on walking.

When they were far enough away Molly said to Billy: “Thank you. I’d forgotten all about Stranger Danger and why it’s so important to stay together and look after each other.”

Eventually, they reached their grandparent’s street and were feeling really pleased with themselves.

Near their grandparent’s house, they saw a group of Billy’s school friends. They were all having a great time throwing snowballs at each other. Soon, Billy and Molly were covered in snow.

“Let’s see who can hit the ‘For Sale’ sign on that house,” said Scott, a boy in Billy’s class.

“I bet I can!” shouted Billy.

Ready for fun, the group began throwing snowballs at the sign, which was next door to Billy and Molly’s grandparent’s house. Unfortunately, some missed the sign and hit the windows and door of the house. The group continued playing, but soon became cold and hungry.



“Come on Molly,” said Billy. “Let’s get inside grandma’s house and warm up a bit.” Molly thought that was a good idea.

Knocking on their grandparent’s door, they waited, but no one answered.

“Maybe they didn’t hear us,” suggested Billy, before knocking on the door with his loudest knock. Still no one came to the door and the children started to worry.

“This is a bit strange,” said Molly. “I know they’re in, they never go out when the weather is like this.”

Crouching down, Molly opened the letterbox. “Grandma! Grandad! It’s us. Surprise!”

Soon, she heard footsteps coming towards the door.

“Well hello you two, this is a surprise, come in, come in,” said grandad.

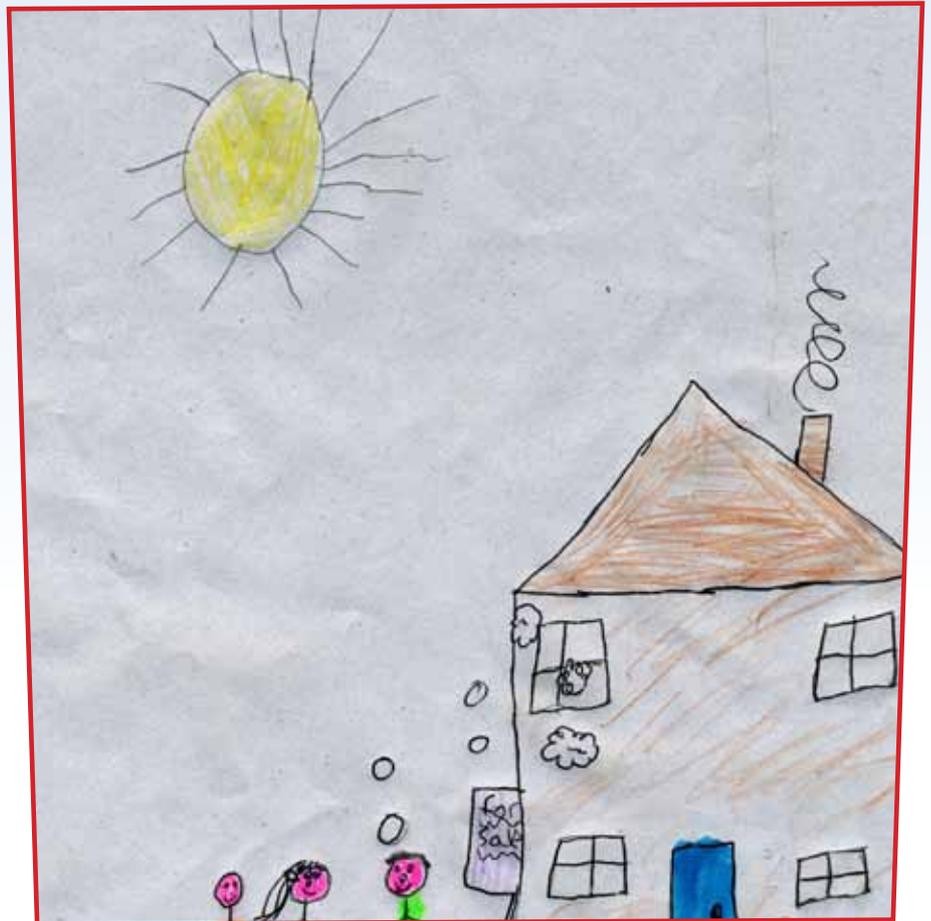
“We’ve been knocking on the door, didn’t you hear us?” Billy asked.

“We heard the knocking but thought it was that group of children who’ve been messing about. They knock on our door but run away when we open it,” their grandad said. “It ruins our days, so now we don’t answer the door unless we’re expecting someone.”

Molly was upset that someone could do something like that to her grandparents and asked if he knew who the children were.

“I don’t know all of them but one boy is called Scott. They’ve been here today throwing snowballs at Mrs. Peacock’s house next door and making so much noise.”

Feeling rather ashamed, Molly and Billy looked at each other. They had been part of the group and hadn’t thought about how their snowball fight would affect others.



“We were throwing snowballs earlier grandad,” Billy admitted. “We didn’t think we were upsetting anyone, I’m sorry.”

His grandma hugged him and said: “It’s not that we don’t want young people to have fun. We were young once and I was a great shot with a snowball!

We just wish the young people would have a little consideration about where they play.”

“I know the group you’re talking about and I’ll speak to them at school on Monday,” Billy said to his grandparents. “I’ll ask them to play somewhere else and not knock on your door anymore.”

“Well that would be great,” said grandma with a big smile on her face. “But for now, let’s get you both in front of the fire to warm up, you both look like little icicles!”

Rushing to the hallway, Molly retrieved her rucksack and gave her grandparents the scarves to help keep them warm.

“These should help you stay warm during the winter,” said Molly.



Grandma hugged them saying, “Oh you are both so thoughtful!”

Excitedly, Billy took the bread and milk through to the kitchen and put them away for his grandparents.

They had a lovely afternoon and went out into the garden to clear the snow from the garden path.

Before they knew it, the sun had disappeared and it started getting dark outside.

“We’d better be leaving,” said Billy, reaching for his coat. However, grandma did not want the pair to walk home on their own in the dark and called their mother. She soon arrived to take them home.



The following morning, Billy and Molly were up early for school. They were keen to tell their teachers and friends about their adventure.

Their teachers were very impressed with how responsible and sensible the pair had been.

When Billy and Molly's friends realised how their games had upset the elderly residents, they asked their teachers if there was something they could do to help them.

They agreed to clear the snow off the residents' paths and working as a group, quickly cleared the snow.

The residents were really impressed at how hard everyone had worked and came out with juice and biscuits for the children, and cups of coffee for the teachers.

The residents told the children stories about what it was like growing up when they were young and the children loved hearing their tales.

Suddenly, Billy had an idea and asked his teacher, Mrs Henry, if they could ask the residents to their next assembly, so everyone could hear their stories. Mrs Henry thought it was a great idea.

And guess what.....?

Every year since Billy and Molly's adventure, children from their school have helped to clear snow from the paths, and in return, get to enjoy what is always their favourite assembly of the year!



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- Always remember the yell, run, tell rule. It's O.K. to run and scream if you find yourself in danger. Get away as fast as you can.
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- Never play in dark or lonely places, stay with groups of friends.
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- Make sure your parents know where you are going and when you will be back.
- Don't make friends on Facebook and Bebo with people who you don't know or recognise.

There are lots of ways you can contact the police:

If it's an emergency, call 999. This means that someone is in danger or you can see a crime happening.

If you just want to speak to a police officer or want some information you can call 101 or text us on 07786 200 814.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired:

In an emergency, text to 999.

In a non-emergency, text to 07786 200 815.

In a non-emergency, textphone 18001 101.

You can also visit us at www.ebeat.org.uk and www.northumbria.police.uk

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