

Parent Tip Tuesday-Recruit Spies

Each week, we talk about the importance of talking to your children to learn what's going on in their lives. The difficulties they are facing, the joys they are experiencing and issues you can guide them through. The fact of the matter remains, there are somethings they aren't going to share with you. That's where your spies come in to play.

OK, you don't really need to recruit spies, we're kidding. But, you do need to make sure that there are other people who are helping you look out for the welfare of your children. Your kids may not "friend" you on social media or may share things with others that you can't see. Most of the time this isn't going to be a big deal and there is nothing to worry about. However, if there is troubling behavior by your child or one of their friends, you need to know what's going on.

It's not uncommon for kids to have a good relationship with an aunt, uncle or other family friend. They may open up to a non-parent adult about something that troubles them or they are embarrassed to tell you. These people are tremendous assets to parents. Relatives and family friends usually offer unconditional love, much like a parent, and can tell you when your child is in trouble.

Don't be afraid to ask for help when it comes to watching out for your children. You don't need to ask for a recount of everything they discuss or see on social media. But it is OK to ask them to let you know when something is going on that you need to know about.

Parent Tip Tuesday is a weekly series where the Parker Police Department talks about an issue involving parents and children. Topics will range from the latest apps and technology to building resiliency in your children. Our goal is to give parents five minutes' worth of information every week that is easily digestible and educate them about new issues that they or their children may face. Please comment below if there are topics that you would like to see us cover.

You can find the previous Parent Tip Tuesday content on our website:

<http://www.parkerpolice.org/2032/Parent-Tip-Tuesday>