## Run, Go Tell A Puppet Play About Stranger Danger

Ronnie and Jackie- 7 year old best friends Chris- A stranger Linda- Ronnie's Mom

(Ronnie and Jackie are at the park playing hide and seek.)

Ronnie: Boy, I just love coming to play at the park. There is so much space to run

and play. I LOOVE THE PARK!!!!!

Jackie: I bet I love it here more than you.

Ronnie: No you don't!

Jackie: Do too.

Ronnie: Do not!

Jackie: Do too.....to infinity and beyond! (Starts to fly around like she is Buzz

Lightyear.)

Ronnie: You can't get away that easy.....'cause I'm Sherriff Woody! Come back here you varmint! (*Calling for Bullseye.*) Come here Bullseye! (*No Bullseye.*) I said, come here Bullseye. (*Still no Bullseye.*) Oh well...(*turns to Jackie*).....AHHHHHHHH!

(Chasing after Jackie.)

Jackie: Nooooo.....stay back or I will use my blaster! (Makes a blaster sound.)

(Ronnie ducks and catches up with Jackie.)

Ronnie: TAG...your it!

Jackie: You missed by a mile...

Ronnie: Your it....I know, let's play hide and seek.

Jackie: Ok...who's it first?

Ronnie: You are, because I tagged you.

Jackie: Fine.

Ronnie: Go to that tree over there and count to infinity.

Jackie: Ok...wait a minute. I can't count that high!

Ronnie: All right, count to 100 then.

Jackie: Ok. I'm off! To infinity and beyond! (Jackie wooshes off to the side of the stage and Ronnie ducks out of sight. Counting.) One, two, skip a few, 99, 100. Ready or not, HERE I COME! (Jackie ducks out of sight.)

(We catch up with Ronnie who is looking for a place to hide, utilizing all the different openings in the puppet stage. Jackie will not accidently show up.)

Ronnie: Gotta find some place fast! (To the audience) Jackie may not be a good counter, but he sure is a good finder. That means that I, Ronnie Rolla must be a better hider! (Still looking around.) Hmmm...now let's see. Where to hide, where to hide. (To the audience) Where do you think I should hide? I don't want anyone to find me, especially Jackie! (Puppeteer will listen to audience and respond.) Hey! That's a great idea! Thanks everyone. (Ronnie acts as if he is hiding.) No one will find me here.

(Enter Chris. A stranger to Ronnie)

Chris: Excuse me...(Ronnie let's out a scream.) Oh sorry, did I scare you?

Ronnie: NO....well, yes, a little.

Chris: I'm sorry. I did not mean to frighten you.

Ronnie: Who are you?

Chris: Oh, how silly of me. My name is Chris. I am a friend of your parents.

Ronnie: You are?

Chris: Sure, I've known them for years. In fact, I knew you when you were just a baby. But I don't live around here anymore.

Ronnie: Where do you live?

Chris: In another state. I am here just visiting. Do you know that I have a son about your age. They are with me here at the park. Do you want to come play with them?

Ronnie: Well...(sounding like he might do it.) I don't know.

Chris: Come on, it would be fun. Your Mom and Dad are over there.

Ronnie: They are?

Chris: Yes siree Bob! We are having a picnic and playing catch with my dog Patches.

Ronnie: You have a dog with you?

Chris: Yeah, see the boy in the striped shirt playing with that dog?

Ronnie: Yeah?

Chris: That is my son Seth playing with Patches.

Ronnie: But, where are my parents? I do not see them anywhere.

Chris: Oh, they are back at their car getting dessert for the picnic.

Ronnie: Dessert! Oh, boy! What is it?

Chris: Chocolate cake.

Ronnie: My favorite!

Chris: Well then, come on. Your parents sent me to come get you.

Ronnie: (*Thinking*) I don't know...my parents and teachers told me never to go off with anyone I don't know.

Chris: But, I'm a friend of your parents. They sent me to come get you. The hot dogs are getting cold.

Ronnie: Ummm...(turning to the audience) What should I do? Should I go with him? (Wait for responses) No? Why not? He said he knows my Mom and Dad. They're gonna eat hot dogs and chocolate cake! I LOVE CHOCOLATE CAKE! So, I should go even though I don't know him right? (Wait for responses.) Still no? Are you sure? (Wait for responses.) All right, I won't go. Thanks for your help everyone! (Turning to Chris) No...I will not come with you because I don't know you and that makes you a stranger. And no one should ever go off with a stranger.

(We hear Jackie off in the distance calling for Ronnie.)

lackie: ROOOOON...NIE! Come out, come out where ever you are.

Ronnie: (Yelling back) Over here!

Jackie: 00000000 KKKKKKKKKK! Your mom is with me. We have to go home, it is time for lunch.

Ronnie: What? My Mom is with you?

Chris: I have to go. Bye. (Chris leaves in a hurry.)

(Jackie shows up with Linda, Ronnie's mom)

Jackie: Boy, you sure are a good hider. I couldn't find you anywhere.

Linda: Come on boys...let's go home for lunch. We are having lettuce wraps with fruit saiad.

Jackie: Welllllllll allllll riiiiiiiiight! Those are my favorites! Let's go!

Ronnie: Wait, Mom? Were you here at the park having a picnic with an old friend?

Linda: Old friend? What old friend? What are you talking about?

Ronnie: This man was just here. He said his name was Chris and that he was a friend of yours, and that he was here at the park with you with his son Seth, his dog Patches, and you and Dad. He said that were having a picnic and that you were at the car with Dad getting chocolate cake for dessert.

Linda: (Shocked) Oh my goodness...no! Did he hurt you?

Ronnie: No...just scared me a little Mom. I did not know what to do. He made it sound like you were all having a great time.

Linda: Did he try to get you to leave with him?

Ronnie: Yes, but then I remembered what you and Dad and Ms. Jenkins, my teacher, told me. Never, ever, go off with a person I don't know because they are a stranger. They could try to hurt me.

Linda: (Hugging Ronnie) I am so glad you listened! And I'm so glad you told me.

Ronnie: You are? I thought you might be mad if I told you what happened.

Linda: I could never be mad at you telling me something as important as this.

Jackie: I'm glad you told too Ronnie. You could have gotten into real trouble if you left with him.

Linda: *(To Jackie and Ronnie both)* You both know never to go off with someone you don't know?

Ronnie and Jackie: Yes ma'am!

Linda: Don't you forget that. (*Turning to Ronnie*) Ronnie, which way did this man go?

(Ronnie points in the direction Chris left.)

Jackie: Are we going after him? (Starts to move in that direction.)

Linda: *(Stopping Jackie)* No Jackie. I just want to let the police know so hopefully they can catch him. Do you remember what he looks like?

Ronnie: Sure do. Mrs. Jenkins also told us that if you ever feel like you are in trouble to try to remember as much detail as you can. (*Describes puppet of Chris.*)

Linda: I'm very proud of you Ronnie. Now let's go home for lunch. I will call and tell the police as soon as we get there.

Ronnie: Ok, come on Jackie.

Jackie: Tag...you're it! (Jackie takes off running.) To infinity and beyond!

Ronnie: Hey, no fair! (Takes off after Jackie. Stops and turns to the audience.) Thanks for your help today everyone! (Pursuing Jackie) Now et back here!

Linda: (alone on stage; to the audience) I'm so glad he listened. (Linda exits.)

## Questions for the audience

(Jackie and Ronnie on stage. All of this dialogue is directed at the audience.)

Ronnie: Hi everyone. That sure was a scary situation wasn't it? *(Wait for responses.)* I'm just glad you were here to help me remember what to do. You helped me remember what my parents and teachers have taught me: NEVER go off with a stranger.

Jackie: But what if they say they know you or someone you know?

(Wait for responses.)

Ronnie: What if they offer you something you really want like candy or video games or phone?

(Wait for responses.)

Jackie: But wait...what if they tell you they lost something like a cat or a dog or even their child and they need your help to find them?

## (Wait for responses.)

Ronnie: That's right everyone! If you don't know someone, they're a stranger. And if they try to get you to go off with them, then run and go tell someone you trust like a parent or a policeman or a friend. Get help as soon as you can!

Jackie: So great job to day everyone! (Pause. Turns to Ronnie.) Tag! (Jackie leaves.)

Ronnie: What?! Hey! Come back here! (To audience) Bye everyone...and remember, run, go tell! (*Ronnie exits*.)