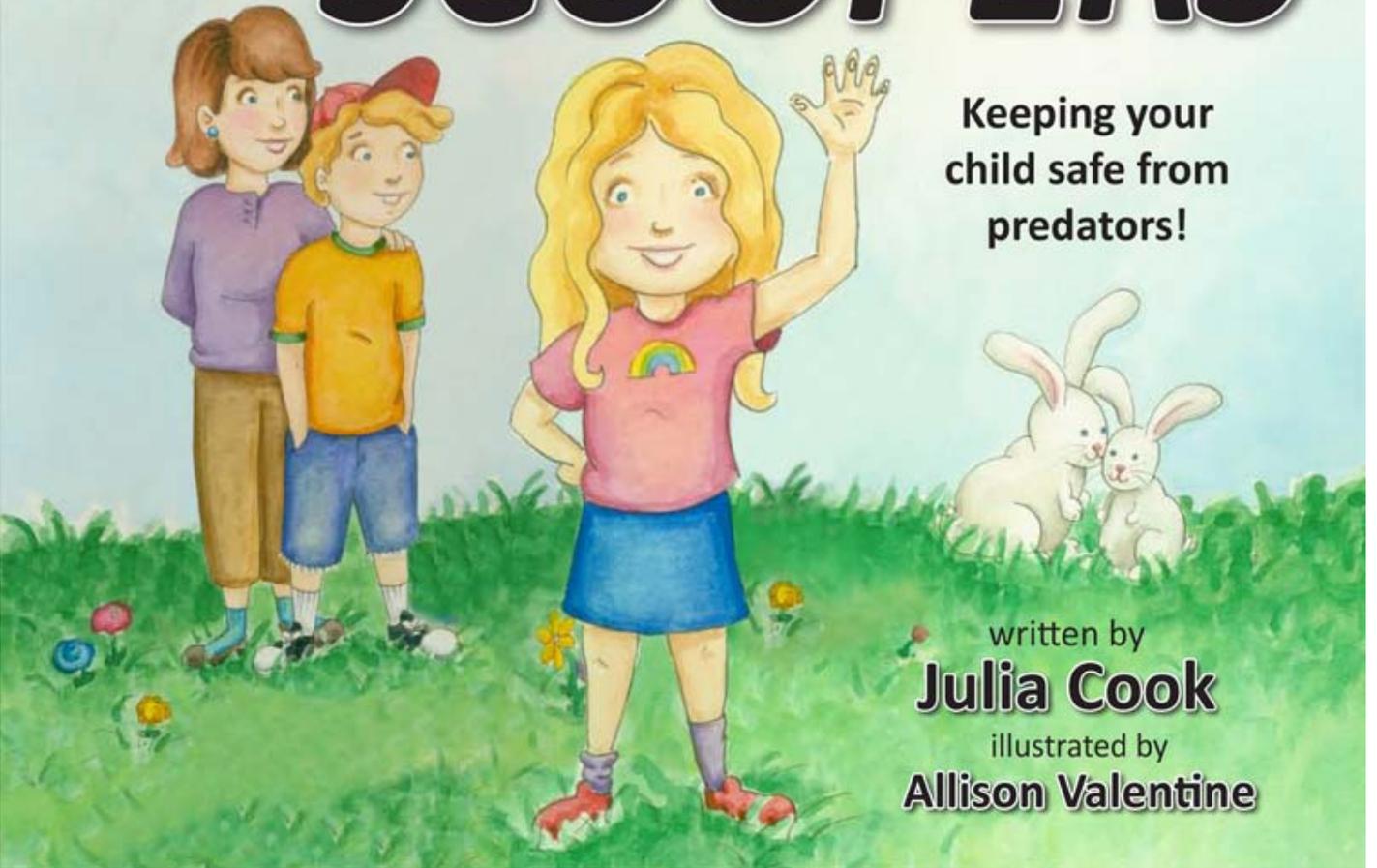


Smarter *than the* **SCOOPERS**

Keeping your
child safe from
predators!



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<http://www.childwatch.org/events/school-events-with-julia-cook/>

Safety Rules for Children:

- *Know your name, address, and phone number.
- *Learn how and when to call 911.
- *If you are scared of someone, run to safety.
- *It's OK to be rude to a grown-up if you feel you are unsafe.
- *Have a "call list" and know how to use it.
- *Don't let anyone on the phone or at the door know that you are home alone.
- *If you ever get lost in a mall, stay where you are until you are found.
- *Beware of an adult that asks you to keep a secret from your parents.
- *Avoid shortcuts when you are walking from one place to another.
- *If you are ever "scooped", scream, kick, bite, and fight as hard as you can to get away! Never ever trust what the "scooper" tells you.
- *Tell your parents or a trusted adult if someone is asking you to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable. Listen to your "Uh Oh" voice.
- *Always ask your parents for permission before getting on the internet.
- *Never talk to people online without your parent's permission
- *Review and practice these rules often.

Safety Rules for Parents:

- *Work hard to establish trust and communication with your children from day one!
- *Don't ever leave children unattended in a vehicle, whether it's running or not.
- *Make sure you know how to find or contact your children at all times.
- *Take an active role in your children's activities.
- *As tired as you may be, take time to listen intently to your children when they tell you they had a bad dream. There could be a reason. Trust your instincts.
- *Talk to your children about inappropriate incidences you hear on the news and get their perspective.
- *Question and monitor anyone who takes an unusual interest in your children.
- *Teach your children that they can be rude to an adult if they feel threatened in any way. They need to hear it from you directly because this message often contradicts everything they have ever heard.
- *Teach your children the difference between an "OK" secret and a "Not OK" secret. Assure your children that you would never want him/her to feel like they had to keep a "NOT OK" secret from you.
- *Have your children practice their most annoying scream. They may need to use it someday.
- *Check websites for registered offenders in your neighborhood. Talk to your children about why these people should be avoided.
- *Keep your family computer in a central location that is easily monitored.
- *Avoid letting your children have internet access in unsupervised areas.
- * Practice and reinforce the safety rules at all times. Role-play and rehearse "what if" scenarios.