

Miles is the Boss of His Body By: Abbie Schiller and Samantha Kurtzman-Counter

As caretakers of young people, making connections and continuing the conversation is helpful to developing critical thinking skills and extending compassion. This includes helping us broaden our understanding of how issues of immigration, race, incarceration, gender, and more are linked to sexual violence. This connection is crucial when thinking about how to keep our communities safer and work towards a future free from harm.

Miles is turning 6 and his whole family is home to help celebrate! With birthday pizza, cake, and a surprise from a birthday chicken, Miles is set for a day of celebration and fun. However, there are a few surprises as Miles gets pinches, nuggies, and squeezes he does not want. As confusion and anger set in, Miles must reconcile what it means to love your family but also assert your boundaries. Miles proclaims he is the boss of his body and gets support from his family to set the boundaries he needs.

Setting boundaries and practicing consent starts at home. Children often times feel like they can't say no to family members around hugs, cheek pinches, and more. When it comes to child sexual abuse, children often times know their abuser as it is a member of their family or community. That is why not only teaching consent and boundaries is important but also practicing saying no and talking with extended family about respecting no. Children are the boss of their body.







Are you the boss of your body? Why or why not?

What are some touches that feel safe? What about touches that feel not safe?

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If someone gives you an unsafe touch, but they're someone you love, how can you tell them no? What should you do if they don't listen to your no?

If someone tells you no for a touch, what can you say or do instead?

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Why is it important to listen to someone?
Why should we respect them when they say no?

