

HI KIDS!

My name is Twink.
The editor of Grapevine wants
me to talk to you about

TOUCHING

so here goes...



WE TOUCH THINGS WHEN WE:

- eat yummy food
- play with our toys
- read this magazine

AND WE TOUCH PEOPLE.

PEOPLE - TOUCHING HAPPENS WHEN WE:

- hold hands with our friends
- kiss Mum goodbye and go off to school
- hug Dad as he gets home from work
- sit on Grandma's knee,
and listen to a story.

These are good touches,
**AND THEY MAKE US
FEEL HAPPY.** ▶▶



People-touching can sometimes be bad, of course!
Like when we kick or punch or hurt.



Bad touching is not good, is it.
IT MAKES US FEEL SAD OR ANGRY.





One thing I've noticed is that people all look different! They come in all shapes and sizes and colours.

NOBODY HAS
A BODY
LIKE YOURS.



YOU'RE SPECIAL!

And your body has been made with some very **SPECIAL PARTS.**



A girl's special parts are the two bumps on her chest (that will grow into breasts) and a vagina between her legs.

Boys have special parts between their legs, too: a penis and two testicles.



★ These are wonderful parts, and boys and girls should be very happy with them.

No need to feel embarrassed
talking about them.

REMEMBER THEY'RE SPECIAL.

When we are growing up,
we keep those special parts
private. That means we don't
show them off to our friends
or neighbours. We usually
wear clothes to keep those
parts covered – not because
they're silly, ugly or nasty, but
because they're special, and
like no other part of our body.



The reason those parts are so special is that
something wonderful happens to them. And when
you're older you can choose to share those parts
of your body with someone very, very special.
Someone you've decided to love.
Someone you want to marry.

That's a very big decision, of
course. It's one you won't
want to make until you're a
grown-up, and know a
lot more about such things.



Now remember what we were saying about different kinds of touching? Well, sometimes a grown-up has to touch a child's special parts. When a baby's nappy needs changing, for example. When the doctor checks you out. When you've been playing at the beach and have got sand all through your togs and a grown-up has to bath or shower you.



BUT SECRET TOUCHING IS NOT OK.
AND THE OLDER OR BIGGER PERSON KNOWS IT.
THE REASON THEY WANT TO KEEP IT A SECRET IS
BECAUSE THEY KNOW IT IS WRONG!



SECRET TOUCHING may happen in the dark or in a hideaway place, and you may feel too afraid or too ashamed to tell.

SECRET TOUCHING may happen when you've been tricked, or promised something you'd really like so long as you don't tell.

SECRET TOUCHING may even happen with someone you love a lot, someone you wouldn't want to get into trouble.

NOW HERE ARE

4 THINGS
YOU SHOULD
KNOW:



SECRET TOUCHING IS NOT OK FOR KIDS because you have a right to feel happy and proud of your body and to keep those wonderful parts special and private.



If secret touching happens to kids, **IT'S NOT FAIR. YOU ARE BEING CHEATED** and it's the grown-up who's making the mistake.



SAY

NO

KIDS ARE ALLOWED TO SAY NO TO ANY KIND OF SECRET TOUCHING even though kids aren't as big as grown-ups, even though kids may feel scared, even though kids may like the grown-up who's doing it, and even though touching those parts may feel good.





WHAT A KID
SHOULD DO ABOUT
SECRET TOUCHING IS



TELL SOMEONE!

Even if you're confused and
not sure it's secret touching.
Tell someone so they can help you decide.
Tell Mum or Dad.
Tell your teacher or school counsellor.
Tell your older sister or brother.
Tell another grown up you can trust.

If you tell someone about secret touching
(or about any touching you can't understand)
then it won't be a secret anymore.



IF YOU TELL
SOMEONE
THE SECRET
WILL BE ALL
OVER AND YOU
CAN BEGIN TO
FEEL BETTER.

Thanks to 'A VERY TOUCHING BOOK' by Jan Hindman for inspiration. 🌸