

# 9. Prevention Before Rescue



## Introduction

Anyone can get lost and it's easy to do. It's even easier for vulnerable groups such as the very young or those with dementia. KSAR works with the community to raise awareness of ways to reduce the likelihood of family members or loved ones getting lost and of steps that can be taken now to assist in the search for those who may go missing, helping provide peace of mind.

## Activities

### All ages

- Complete Four of the following:
  - Learn about KSAR's Safe and Sound Campaign and discuss how this could be of use in your area and group.
  - Learn about safety tips for youngsters such as the Hug-A-Tree and Survive programme which originated in the USA and discuss which tips from this could be used in your area and what other suggestions you have that are relevant to your group and area. Check to see if any UK SAR Teams have similar tips.
  - Design a poster about either the Safe and Sound, or Hug-A-Tree type programmes.
  - Discuss how the information on the KSAR Safe and Sound Campaign's Life History Questionnaires helps Police and search teams find someone who has gone missing. Is there anything you would add?
  - Describe the Hug-a-Tree and Survive programme to the leaders of your younger sections such as the Beavers, Rainbows, Cubs or Brownies and discuss with them which parts are relevant to their group and area.



From Hill to High Water™



## Equipment

The notes and links below. Paper and coloured pencils/pens if doing posters. Copies of the KSAR life history questionnaires.

## Further information

### KSAR's Safe and Sound Campaign

Kent Search and Rescue's 'Safe and Sound' campaign is aimed primarily at those that care for vulnerable people of all ages, in particular carers who care for friends and family at home, parents, foster parents, and those who work with vulnerable people in various residential settings. Safe and Sound brings together a number of initiatives that are designed to help carers develop workable solutions to prevent the person they care for from going missing but also get them home quickly if they do. These proactive initiatives are each intended to alleviate as much of the stress associated with this type of event as possible.

The link below takes you to the KSAR Safe and Sound page where the Life History Questionnaires, pamphlets and newsletter are available to download:

[http://www.ksar.co.uk/community/safe\\_and\\_sound.html](http://www.ksar.co.uk/community/safe_and_sound.html).

### The History of Hug-a-Tree and Survive

In February 1981, 9 year old Jimmy Beveridge became lost during a family camping trip in Palomar State Park, California, USA. The search for Jimmy was the largest in the history of San Diego County. After four days, Jimmy's body was found approximately two miles from the campsite. He had died from hypothermia.

Many people were affected by this tragedy and had a desire to prevent similar events occurring again. This was the beginning of the Hug-a-Tree and Survive program in the USA. The programme was designed to tell a simple story that would teach children how to avoid getting lost, how to stay comfortable if they get lost, and how to be spotted and found. In order to understand the full history and background to this program we urge you to follow this link to an article by West Valley Search and Rescue, San Bernardino County, California, USA: <http://www.westvalleysar.org/hugatreehistory.html>.

### Get Found

Get Found is an initiative of Dorset Search and Rescue which gives simple advice on how to get found if you get lost: <http://www.dorsar.org.uk/initiatives/get-found.html>.

### Similar programmes

A similar program is also run in other countries and the link below is to a related site in Canada. <http://www.calsara.com/interactive.html>. An internet search may find other examples.