FROM THE FIND MY HOUSE PICTURE-BOOK SERIES BY CAPT MATT RIDGWAY

Home Facts Practice

A short circle-time lesson for preschool and early learning. Children practice the idea of home facts in a warm, playful way — with pretend clues only.

Ages 2–6 | **Time** about 10 minutes | **You need** this page and crayons | **Optional** a Find My House picture book

Our classroom rule

At school, we use **pretend details only**. Children never write or say their real address or phone number in class. Real address and phone practice happens only at home, with a grown-up.

1 Name a grown-up

Invite each child who wants a turn to say the **first name** of a grown-up who helps them — a parent, a caregiver, or someone their family trusts. First names are welcome. We do not ask for an address or a phone number.

2 Help the characters

If you have a Find My House book, read it aloud. Leave the clue pages blank, or fill them with pretend details the class invents. Pause when a character asks for a clue, and let the children help with the pretend answer.

- Try a silly voice for the characters. Let the children be the experts.
- Every try is a win. If someone gets stuck, invent the next clue together.

No book on hand? Tell a short story in the same spirit: a friendly helper needs to find the way, and the class helps with pretend clues.

3 Playful practice (pick one)

- **Pretend-number rhythm:** Invent a pretend phone number together, such as 555-0100. Clap, tap, or hop it in small chunks. Use this class number only.
- **Pretend-address song:** Invent a silly street name and sing it to a tune the class already knows.
- **Draw your house:** On extra paper, children draw their house and the grown-ups who live there. No address or phone number on the drawing.

Trusted-grown-up practice

Pretend: You bumped your knee at school. Your teacher wants to call your grown-up.

"Who should I call?"

The child may say the grown-up's first name. Then the class can clap the pretend number from earlier. Swap roles: a child can be the teacher, and you can be the helper.

You can name trusted grown-ups in the room, such as the teacher. Families choose their own trusted grown-ups at home.

Take-home note for families

Please practice your child's **real home address** and a **grown-up's phone number** only at home, together. Grown-ups' real names — not just "Mommy" or "Daddy" — are helpful to practice at home too.

If you have a Find My House book, write the real clues in the blanks with a marker, say them out loud, and keep the book at home. You might also clap the real number in chunks, sing the street name, or spot the house number on your door — always with a grown-up.

Please don't post photos of filled-in pages, or share a child's name, address, phone number, or school online.

A plain note for teachers and families

- **This is a playful practice idea, not a safety program.** It makes no promises about outcomes. Ten minutes is a suggested activity length.
- **Knowing is a first step.** Saying home facts is a skill to practice, not a sign that a child is ready to be on their own. Young children still need a grown-up nearby.
- **Who to tell:** families decide which grown-ups they trust. Practice sharing real details only with those people, not with anyone who asks.
- Questions about this lesson: **findmyhousebooks@gmail.com**