*Park Ranger Pete sits on chair and the rest of us sit on the floor around him*

Park Ranger Pete: Welcome to Storytime with Park Ranger Pete!

Toby: Tell us a story Park Ranger Pete!

Park Ranger Pete: What should it be about?

Joelle: Wilderness safety!

Park Ranger Pete: Okay, today I’m going to tell you kids a story about a girl named Mia who got lost in the woods and didn’t know what to do. I decided to share a little bit of my park ranger knowledge with her about how to protect herself from the scary things she ran into in the forest.

*Everyone gets up and gets in costume (if needed), Poison Ivy goes under one table and the Bear goes under another, Park Ranger Pete goes to the far left of the room and Mia goes to the far right*

Mia: *Walks out and stops.* I think I’m lost, and I don’t know what to do. I’ve never been in the woods by myself before.

*Bear crawls out from under table*

Mia: Oh no, a bear! Someone please help!

*Park Ranger Pete runs onstage*

Park Ranger Pete: Don’t worry Mia, this bear isn’t scary. It is a special bear here to teach you about being safe.

*Bear stands up*

Bear: Meeting a bear can give you a scare, all big and brown and covered in hair; but if we do meet and you don’t want to be my next treat, stand as still as a statue and whatever you do don’t scream; back slowly away and let your arms sway, don’t scare the bear and you’re sure to escape.

Park Ranger: What do you do if you see a bear, Mia?

*Mia backing away and waving arms in the air*

Mia: Back slowly away and let your arms sway, don’t scare the bear and you’re sure to escape.

*Bear walks offstage slowly*

Park Ranger Pete: Why don’t you come back to my cabin with me and we can find your parents.

Mia: Okay.

*Poison Ivy sticks her arm out from under the table*

*They both start walking and then Poison Ivy reaches her leaf arm out from under the table and hits Mia*

Mia: \**scratching arm\** That plant made me really itchy.

Park Ranger Pete: Uh oh, looks like you stepped in some poison ivy.

Mia: What should I do?!

Park Ranger Pete: Let's listen to what Poison Ivy has to say.

*Poison Ivy emerges fully from under the table*

Poison Ivy: Leaves of three you should have let me be, but you were walking through the woods, and you got poison ivy; don’t itch, don’t scratch or you’ll spread the rash; go tell an adult and they’ll get you to a doctor fast

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Park Ranger Pete: What do you do if you touch poison ivy, Mia?

Mia: Don’t itch don’t scratch or you’ll spread the rash, go tell an adult and they’ll get you to a doctor fast.

*Park Ranger Pete sits back in the chair, everyone sits on the ground around him.*

Park Ranger Pete: Eventually after teaching Mia more about outdoor safety, I reunited her with her parents, and she was never scared to be in the woods again.

Park Ranger Pete: Okay, let's review what we learned in this story today.

Park Ranger Pete: What do you do if you see a bear?

Everyone: If you see a bear, back slowly away and let your arms sway, don’t scare the bear and you’re sure to escape.

Park Ranger Pete: Great job everyone, and do you do if you get poison ivy?

Everyone: If you get poison ivy, don’t itch don’t scratch or you’ll spread the rash, go tell an adult and they’ll get you to a doctor fast.

Park Ranger Pete: I hope everyone learned something helpful today and I’ll see you all next time at Storytime with Park Ranger Pete.

*Everyone sitting on the floor claps*