



What Is a Forensic Interview?

A forensic interview is a **specialized conversation between a trained professional and a child** when there are concerns about abuse. The goal is to give the child a safe space to share what happened in their own words, without pressure, judgment, or “leading” questions.

- Interviews are conducted in child advocacy centers by professionals trained to speak with children at their developmental level.
- They are **recorded** so the child does not have to retell their story multiple times.
- The interviewer’s role is **neutral**: they gather information, not act as a therapist or investigator.
- Parents are not present in the room, but a team of law enforcement and child protection staff may be observing.

Why it matters: A forensic interview helps protect your child’s voice, ensures accuracy, and reduces trauma by limiting repeated questioning.