



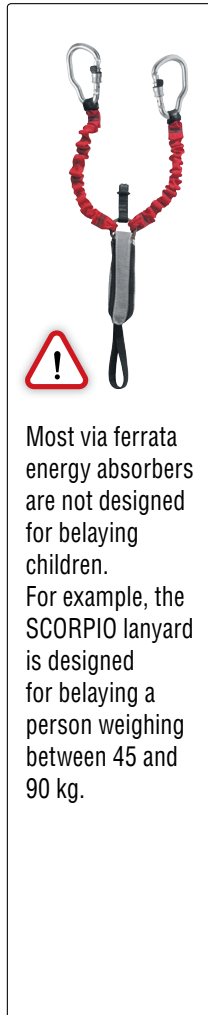
A via ferrata outing with the children can be both fun and educational. Bars, ramps, steps, suspension bridges, and rope-bridges create a playground that is ideal for learning about upward progression.

With children, it is essential to use a rope along with energy absorbing lanyards



1 - On a via ferrata, as with all vertical activities, there is never a zero risk factor. With children, the parents' / leaders' vigilance should be heightened. Some tips for preparing the outing:

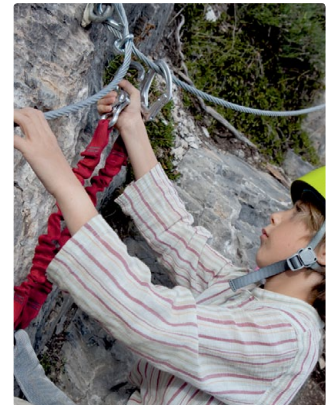
- Choose a via ferrata that you know, one that is manageable, with escape options, and suited to your technical level as well as your child's
- Explain the instructions for safe progression before leaving
- Be properly equipped: appropriate footwear, technical equipment (harnesses, energy absorbing lanyards, helmets, ropes...)
- Plan for enough water and food
- And of course, check the weather forecast before leaving



Most via ferrata energy absorbers are not designed for belaying children. For example, the SCORPIO lanyard is designed for belaying a person weighing between 45 and 90 kg.



2 - Regardless of the length of the energy absorber, a classic rope belay system should be set up to enhance the child's safety. The rope is used only to belay the child. To reduce weight, a 30 m length of UIAA rope is sufficient. Use a figure eight knot to tie into the harness.



3 - Use an energy absorbing lanyard when passing intermediate anchors. To learn more about progression techniques using energy absorbing lanyards: www.petzl.com

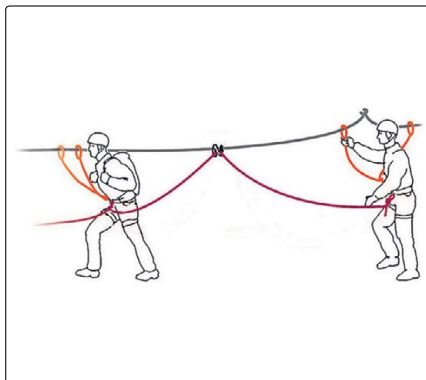
Progression on via ferrata: belaying a child



Belaying while moving



4 - Over easy horizontal traverses, the leader and child use their progression lanyards to progress simultaneously with the rope taut.



5 - While progressing, the leader passes the rope through the pigtails or the quickdraws; the child then removes it.

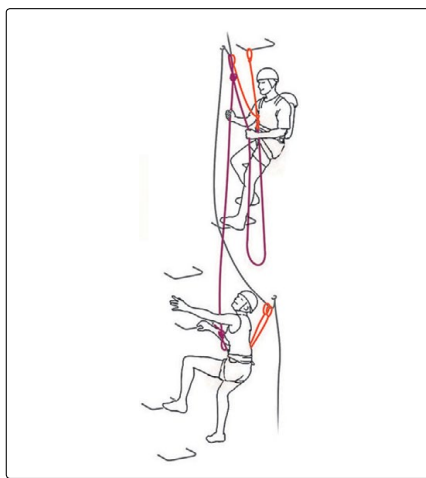


6 - A relatively close tie-in allows better supervision of the child. Lanyards will keep the child connected to the cable in case of a fall.

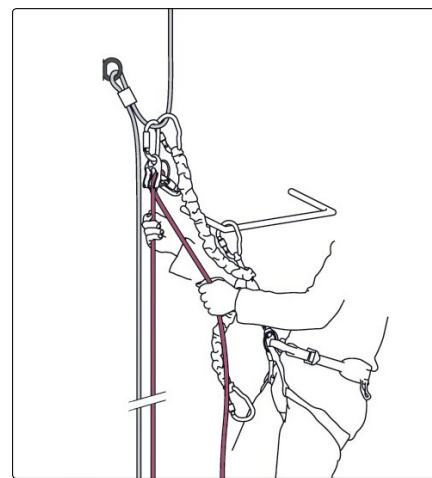
Belaying from a fixed anchor



7 - During vertical sections, the leader progresses with energy absorbing lanyards and passes the rope through the pigtails or the quickdraws, if necessary, to keep it in line. The child waits on belay with his lanyards and helps manage the rope. Caution: these pitches should not be too long.



8 - Above the pitch, the leader should remain visible and set up a station on the energy absorbers in order to belay the child's ascent. The rope is used to avoid a fall. The child removes the rope from the pigtails while progressing.



9 - A REVERSO 3 or a munter hitch on a locking carabiner is used for belaying the ascent of the second.



PICCHU



SIMBA



SCORPIO



Rope (UIAA)



REVERSO 3



Am'D



SPIRIT EXPRESS

Product list is non-exhaustive. Find a complete list of products and descriptions in the products section.