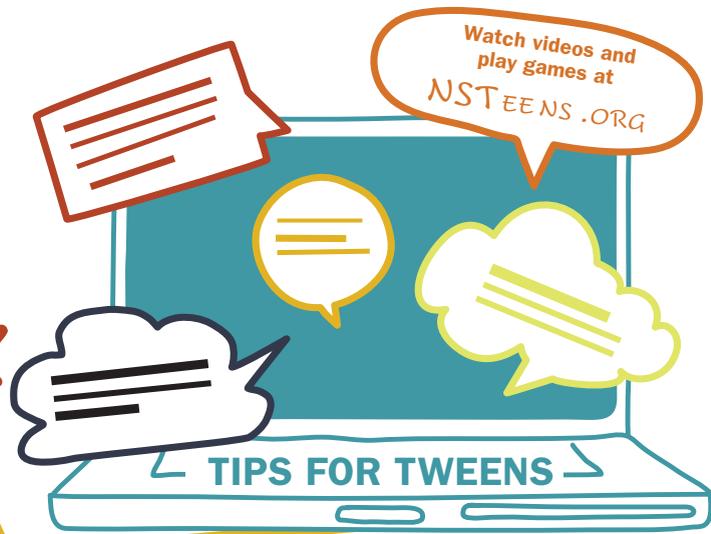


YOUR NETSMARTZ



CYBERBULLYING

Don't be mean.

Gossiping doesn't make you cool.

Ignore. Block. Tell.

Ignore mean or threatening messages, block the sender, and tell a trusted adult who can help you report them.

Speak up

if your friends are cyberbullying someone.

ONLINE PREDATORS

Recognize the difference between cute and creepy.

An older guy who wants to date someone much younger is just creepy.

Don't just sit there – REPORT

SHARING TOO MUCH

Avoid TMI.

Don't post anything too personal or embarrassing.

Protect your space.

Use privacy settings and don't accept just anyone as a friend.

Don't be that kid

who gets suspended for posting something stupid online.

TRUSTED ADULTS

Talk to your parents or guardians

about what you're doing online. They're not as bad as you think.

PROTECTING YOUR KIDS ONLINE 2.0

CONNECT

Set some ground rules.

Establish clear guidelines like what types of sites kids can visit, apps they can download, and when they can have access to electronics. Consider “blackout” periods that require disconnection.

Research before you buy.

It’s important to learn about a device’s capabilities before you buy. Will it allow unknown people to communicate with my child? Will this allow children to make unchecked purchases?

Go beyond safeguards.

Installing monitoring software doesn’t guarantee your child will be safe online. Time, attention, and active conversation are the best tools to protect them.

REPORT!

If your kids are dealing with cyberbullies or potential online enticement, report it to the website, cell phone provider, law enforcement, or www.cybertipline.org

LEARN

Know the platforms.

Online enticement happens across all platforms, so be aware of the sites, games, and apps your children frequent. Ask them to show you how they use them.

Be proactive.

Teach your kids to spot common tricks used by online offenders. In NCMEC CyberTipline reports, the most common tactics used to entice a child online were:

- Engaging the child in sexual conversation/ roleplay as a grooming method.
- Directly asking the child for sexually explicit images of themselves, or offering to mutually exchange images.
- Developing a rapport with the child through compliments and other supportive behaviors such as “liking” their online posts.
- Sending unprompted sexually explicit images of themselves.
- Pretending to be younger.
- Offering incentives for explicit content.

Spot the Red Flags.

A child who is experiencing online enticement may be:

- Spending increasing time online.
- Getting upset when he or she is not allowed on their device.
- Taking extra steps to conceal what they are doing online.
- Receiving gifts from people you don’t know.

ENGAGE

Talk about it!

Your kids might not tell you everything, but ask anyway. Regular conversations about safety can go a long way in increasing trust and communication.

Get involved.

Challenge them to a duel. If you have kids who like to play online games, ask if you can play, too. When you respect their interests, they’re more likely to respect your rules.

Don’t pull the plug.

Taking away internet access because they may have made mistakes online doesn’t solve the problem. Talk to them about protecting themselves and respecting others online.

THE RISKS

• CYBERBULLYING

With the constant connectivity of smartphones, your child may be more susceptible to cyberbullying or have more opportunities to cyberbully others.

• GEOLOCATION

A GPS-enabled smartphone can reveal your child's location through online posts and uploaded photos.

• INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With smartphones, your child has mobile access to content you may consider inappropriate, such as pornography or violent videos.

• SEXTING

Your child may use the Internet and social apps to send, receive, or forward revealing photos.

• VIRUSES & MALWARE

Just like a computer, a smartphone is vulnerable to security attacks if your child accesses unsecured websites and apps.

5 WAYS TO BE SMARTER THAN THE SMARTPHONE!

1. Be a parent and a resource.

Establish clear guidelines, including time limits and consequences for inappropriate behavior, but be open so your child will come to you with any problems.

2. Set up password protection.

This will keep everyone but you and your child from accessing personal information stored on the phone.

3. Update the operating system.

New versions often contain important security fixes.

4. Approve apps before they are downloaded.

Make sure you understand their capabilities and approve their content.

5. Understand location services.

GPS features are useful when using maps, but you'll want to disable location-tagging when your child posts anything online.

PARENTS' GUIDE TO SMART PHONE SAFETY

SMART OR SCARY?

Smartphones are essentially little computers, so you might be a little worried when handing one over to your child. Take some time to understand the risks and implement a few safeguards so that you can help your child use smartphones safely.



For more resources visit NetSmartz.org/TipSheets

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A program of the

NetSmartz® Workshop

NATIONAL
CENTER FOR

**MISSING &
EXPLOITED**
CHILDREN®

CHILD ABDUCTION

Many abduction attempts...

- Involve a suspect driving a vehicle
- Occur when the child is traveling to or away from school
- Occur between 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Involve girls and children between the ages of 10-14

The top five methods used during abduction attempts are...

- Offering a ride
- Offering candy or sweets
- Asking questions
- Offering money
- Offering, looking for or showing an animal

- Know the routes your children take, especially to and from school. Practice walking the routes with them so you can point out places they should avoid or where they can go for help.
- Talk to your child's school or day care facility about its pickup policy. Be clear that no one should pick up your child without your permission. Ask to be contacted immediately if someone else tries to pick up your child.
- Use role-playing scenarios to help children learn how to recognize and respond to risky situations. For example, have children practice yelling, kicking, pulling away or otherwise attracting attention when grabbed or approached by someone they do not know.
- Teach your child about the methods would-be abductors use. Have your child practice responding to the tricks by saying "no," walking away and telling a trusted adult immediately.
- Prepare children to act when you are not with them. They should know their full names, home addresses and telephone numbers, and how to dial 911.
- Keep a child identification kit, which includes a recent color photo of your child and descriptive details such as age, height and weight. [For more information about creating a kit visit www.missingkids.com/ChildID.](http://www.missingkids.com/ChildID)

RETHINK "STRANGER DANGER"

- **DON'T SAY:** Never talk to strangers.
- **SAY:** You should not approach just anyone. If you need help, look for a uniformed police officer, a store clerk with a nametag, or a parent with children.
- **DON'T SAY:** Stay away from people you don't know.
- **SAY:** It's important to get my permission before going anywhere with anyone.
- **DON'T SAY:** You can tell someone is bad just by looking at them.
- **SAY:** Pay attention to what people do. Tell me right away if anyone asks you to keep a secret, makes you feel uncomfortable, or tries to get you to go with them.



If your child is missing, contact your local law-enforcement agency immediately. Then make a report to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® at:

1-800-THE-LOST® (1-800-843-5678).

Tips for

Gaming Safely

Parental involvement is critical when it comes to helping children game more safely. Take an active interest in the games that your child plays and wants to buy. You can research games' ratings and content on www.esrb.org. This website is maintained by the Entertainment Software Rating Board which rates thousands of games each year.



Know which safety features are available on the gaming equipment that your child uses—a headset may have voice-masking features, for example.



Keep gaming consoles in an easy-to-supervise location and be aware of other places where your child may be accessing games.



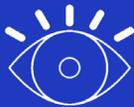
Tell your child never to give out personal information while gaming or agree to meet anyone outside of the game.



Set Rules about how long your child may play, what types of games are appropriate, and who else may participate.



Have your child check with you before using a credit or debit card online.



Check to see if the games your child plays have reporting features or moderators.

Start a discussion with your child

- » Can we play some of your favorite games together?
- » How do you respond if someone bothers you while you are gaming?
- » How much do you let people know about you while gaming?
- » What kinds of people do you game with?
- » Do you feel safe while you are gaming online? Why or why not?

This resource brought to you by

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For more
resources visit
NetSmartz.org