

Not In My House: Keeping Children and Teens Safe From Online Predators

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Presentation By

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How Perpetrators Operate

- Pretend to be younger or using an entirely fake identity – fake profiles to develop friendships based on those common interests, hobbies, life experiences they've gleaned from profiles
- Develop rapport/trust through compliments, discussing shared interests, “liking” posts (also known as grooming)
- Gradually begin to exploit your child's natural curiosity about sex- by conversation/role playing as a grooming method for an encounter
- Begin lowering inhibitions over time – they begin asking the child for sexually explicit images of themselves, or mutually sharing images, gradually introducing explicit images
- Later evolves into sexual discussions, questioning about sexual experiences, etc, sending messages; then (once they have the goods)
- If useful to them, may offer an incentive such as money, alcohol, drugs, lodging, transportation or food, phones or gift cards
- Ultimately control through blackmail, coercion, or threats of “what may happen” to child or loved ones if demands aren't met

What Do I Do?!?



1. DO YOUR HOMEWORK

2. COMMUNICATE with your youngster

- Start regular conversations at an early age
- Always be proactive and positive, not reactive or punitive
- Empower them to report, protect others

3. SET YOUR BOUNDARIES

- Set a policy, perhaps even written/signed Family Use Agreement
- NO apps without approval!

Homework Part 1

- **Commonsense Media** (commonsensemedia.org, also on [Facebook](#))
 - Advice for apps, games, age-appropriate entertainment
 - Lists for Safe Chat Rooms, Social Sites for Kids, Social Networking for Teens
 - Objective Recommendations for Instagram, etc.
- **[NetSmartz](#)** – Age-appropriate online teaching
 - www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/videos
- **[SafeToNet.com](#)** – Uses AI and behavioral analysis, smart keyboard prompts youth to beware, but does not allow you to “spy”
- **Facebook’s Messenger Kids**

Homework Part 2



- Turn on SafeSearch in all browsers
- Turn OFF Location tracking
- Cover all webcams when not in use
- Know where to report:
 - NCMEC CyberTipline: report.cybertip.org and missingkids.org
 - 24-hour hotline: 1-800-843-5678
 - Local police

Homework Part 3: Talking To Your Child/Teen

- What do you use your smartphone for the most? Can you show me some of your favorite apps?
- Do you KNOW everyone in your contacts, and on all your different apps?
- Have you ever talked with someone you first met online on your phone?
- What would you do if someone sent you a picture or a text that was not appropriate?
- Do you know how to turn off GPS and turn on privacy settings in all the apps you use?
- Has anyone ever taken an embarrassing picture of you without your permission?
- Have you ever taken an embarrassing picture of someone else? What did you do with it?
- (With pre-teen or teen): Do you know what “sexting” is?

Teach Them: Netiquette



Do NOT post:

- Anything with foul language
- With any illegal activity – underage drinking/references to drug use
- Anything that could be considered hate speech
- Anything that could be considered a threat of violence
- Anything with total or partial nudity
- Anything considered “sexting”
- Do NOT share: passwords, your address, location, cell number, email address

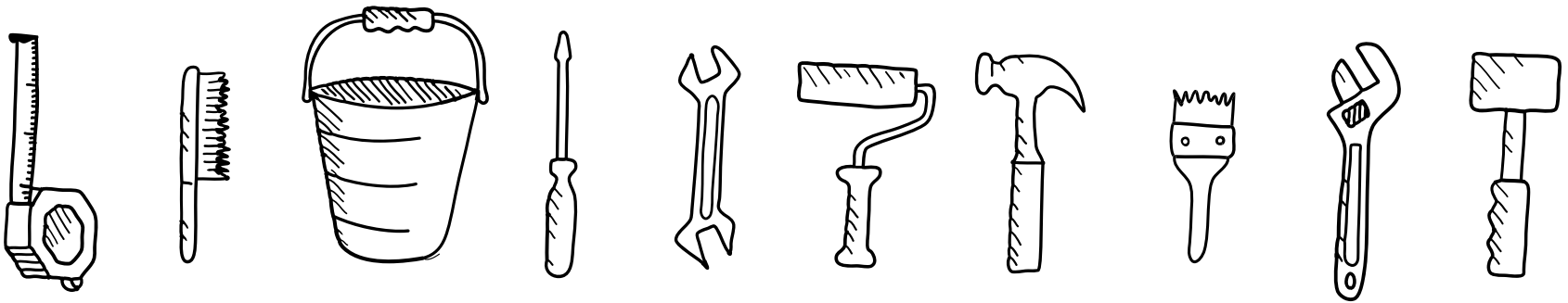
Teach Them How To Respond To Inappropriate Content



- Hit the back button
- Turn off the screen
- Tell a trusted adult
- Report to the website or app where they found it
- Report it to [Cybertipline.org](https://www.cybertipline.org)

The Toolkit

- Commonsense Media ([commonsensemedia.org](https://www.common Sense Media.org), also on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/commonsensemedia))
- [NetSmartz](https://www.netSMARTz.org) – Age-appropriate online teaching
 - www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/videos
- [MissingKids.org/NetSmartz/resources#tipsheets](https://www.missingkids.org/NetSmartz/resources#tipsheets)
- [SafeToNet.com](https://www.SafeToNet.com)
- Facebook's Messenger Kids
- NCMEC Cyber Tipline: [Report Cybertip.org](https://www.ReportCybertip.org) and [missingkids.org](https://www.missingkids.org)
 - 24-hour hotline: 1-800-843-5678



Parents' Guide to Smartphone Safety



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 smart security.

Smartphones today include a variety of security mechanisms including fingerprint scans, facial recognition and password locks. Enable these to protect access to the phone as well as apps with sensitive data.

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.

For more resources visit MissingKids.org/NetSmartz/Resources

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