



# Internet Safety Tips for Parents and Guardians



Think Before You

# CLICK

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Homeland Security Investigations  
and  
United States Attorney's Office  
for the District of Massachusetts

CHILDREN'S INCREASED ACCESS TO AND RELIANCE ON  
SOCIAL MEDIA, CHATTING APPS, GAMING, AND OTHER INTERNET-BASED PLATFORMS  
CAN LEAD TO INCREASED VULNERABILITY TO SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

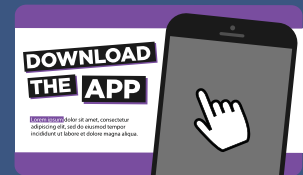
**TALK** TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT POTENTIAL DANGERS & **TAKE ACTION** TO PROTECT THEIR PRIVACY!



**DISCUSS** INTERNET SAFETY WITH  
CHILDREN OF ALL AGES WHEN  
THEY ENGAGE IN ONLINE ACTIVITY



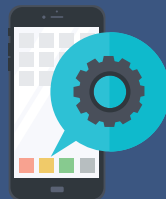
**MONITOR** INTERNET USE & KEEP  
DEVICES IN A COMMON ROOM  
(not the bedroom!)



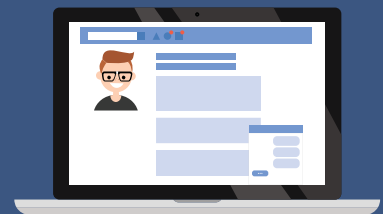
**REVIEW AND APPROVE**  
GAMES AND APPS BEFORE  
THEY ARE DOWNLOADED



EXPLAIN THAT **IMAGES** POSTED  
ONLINE STAY ON THE INTERNET  
**PERMANENTLY**



SET **PRIVACY SETTINGS** TO THE  
STRICTEST LEVEL POSSIBLE FOR  
ONLINE & GAMING PROFILES



CHECK YOUR CHILDREN'S PROFILES:  
KNOW **WHAT** THEY ARE POSTING &  
**WHO** THEY ARE TALKING TO

IF YOU SUSPECT THAT YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN  
VICTIMIZED ONLINE OR IN PERSON, PLEASE CALL LAW  
ENFORCEMENT FOR ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES

MAKE SURE YOUR CHILDREN KNOW THEY CAN TELL  
A PARENT, GUARDIAN, LAW ENFORCEMENT, OR OTHER  
TRUSTED ADULT IF SOMEONE ASKS THEM TO ENGAGE  
IN SEXUALLY EXPLICIT ACTIVITY ONLINE



For more information:  
[www.netsmartzkids.org](http://www.netsmartzkids.org)  
[www.missingkids.org](http://www.missingkids.org)  
[www.ice.gov/topics/iGuardians](http://www.ice.gov/topics/iGuardians)  
[www.justice.gov/usao-ma/project-safe-childhood](http://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/project-safe-childhood)

To report concerns:  
CyberTipline: 866-347-2423

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## TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT POTENTIAL DANGERS & TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT THEIR PRIVACY: TIPS FOR PARENTS

### SET EXPECTATIONS ABOUT SAFE INTERNET USE & REVISIT THEM FREQUENTLY WITH YOUR KIDS



DISCUSS **GROUND RULES**  
FOR SAFE ONLINE  
BEHAVIOR



AGREE ON WHAT TYPE OF  
INFORMATION IS **OK TO**  
**SHARE** AND WHAT  
SHOULD STAY **PRIVATE**

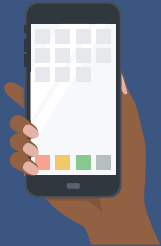


OUTLINE  
**CONSEQUENCES** FOR  
VIOLATING GROUND  
RULES



**REVIEW** PARENTAL  
CONTROLS, PRIVACY  
SETTINGS, AND CONTENT  
**FREQUENTLY**

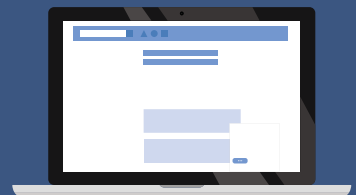
### LOOK FOR SIGNS OF POTENTIAL VICTIMIZATION



NEW **SECRECY**: QUICKLY  
CLOSING WINDOWS OR  
APPS



**CHANGE IN BEHAVIOR** OR ATTITUDE: VISIBLY NERVOUS  
WHEN USING CERTAIN APPS



SUDDENLY **WITHDRAWN**  
FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

### IF YOU THINK YOUR CHILD IS A VICTIM...



- **DO NOT DELETE** ANYTHING!
- PLACE PHONE IN **AIRPLANE** MODE
- **REPORT** IT TO AUTHORITIES



REMEMBER & REMIND OTHERS:  
**IT'S NOT YOUR CHILD'S FAULT**



**KEEP TALKING** ABOUT HOW TO KEEP  
THEM SAFE AND HAPPY



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