

Online Safety Conversation Starters



GENERAL INTERNET SAFETY

- What are your favorite things to do online?
- What is personal information? Why should you keep it private?
- What could you do to be safer online?
- What would you do if anyone online asked to meet you face-to-face?
- Besides me, who do you feel that you can talk to if you are in a scary or uncomfortable situation?

SOCIAL MEDIA/MESSAGING APPS

- What are your favorite social websites? Can you show me how to use some of them?
- What do you like about this app or website? What do you use it for?
- Do you ever talk to people you don't know online? What do you talk about?
- Have you ever encountered a follower or a user online that bothered you? How did you deal with it?

ONLINE PRIVACY

- Why do you think it's important to only add friends you know in real life on social media?
- Do you know how to change your privacy settings on social media websites and apps?
- Do you know how to disable location-tagging on your phone or in the apps you use?
- Have you ever seen a pop-up or ad that asked you for personal information? What did you do?
- How easy do you think your passwords are to guess? Do you know how to make them stronger?

CYBERBULLYING

- Have you ever been upset with someone online? How did you deal with it?
- Has someone ever sent you a mean message online? How did it make you feel?
- If you knew someone was being cyberbullied, what would you do?
- Do you know how to report cyberbullying on the websites and apps you use? Who would you talk to at school?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

- Have you ever seen something online that made you feel sad, scared or confused?
- What would you do if you saw something online that made you unsafe or uncomfortable?

SEXUAL SOLICITATION

- Has anyone ever tried talking to you online about inappropriate or sexual things? What did you do?
- Do you trust all of your online friends? Are there any you should unfriend?
- Do you know how to report, flag, or block people on the websites and apps you use? Can you show me?
- Who would you talk to if you were upset by a request you received online?

SEXTING

- Has anyone ever sent you a sext?
- Has anyone ever asked or pressured you to sext?
- Do you think it's okay to forward an image you received? What could you do instead?
- What are some ways a private photo sent to one person could be seen by others?
- What could happen if you send or forward a naked picture?

Conversations with kids about online safety need to start early and happen often. It doesn't have to be intimidating; try asking one of these questions the next time you're in the car or on a walk with your child.

For questions or support, contact Crime Victims Assistance Center.

Office: (607) 723-3200 | 24/7 Hotline: (607) 722-4256 | Anonymous Text: 725-8196