Cyber Safety

HISD | Family and Community Engagement
EMPOWERING FAMILIES. ADVANCING LEARNING.

Norms

Stay engaged

Mute your microphone

Refrain from mentioning sensitive student and staff information

Write your comments or questions to the presenters –at any time- in the public chat space

Expected Outcomes

Learn	Learn the importance of Cyber Safety
Gain	Gain knowledge about common cyber threats to kids
Learn	Learn strategies on how to approach your child about cyber safety
Learn	Learn how to utilize best practices for cyber safety

Do you recognize these applications?

Cyber Safety

Cyber Safety is the act of using safe practices when using the internet to prevent personal attacks or criminal activities

SEXTORTION
IMPERSONATING THREATS PRESSURE
SPYING CYBERBULLYING RUMORS
TROLLING SMOTHERING OUTING
FLAMING EXCLUSION

Research Says…

- 90% of kids ages 3-18 have access to the internet at home via computer or smartphone
- 30% have reported using the internet in ways their parents wouldn't approve
- 21% have visited sites where they can chat with strangers
- 17% have visited adult sites
- 11% have visited sites where they can cheat on homework
- 4% have visited online gambling sites
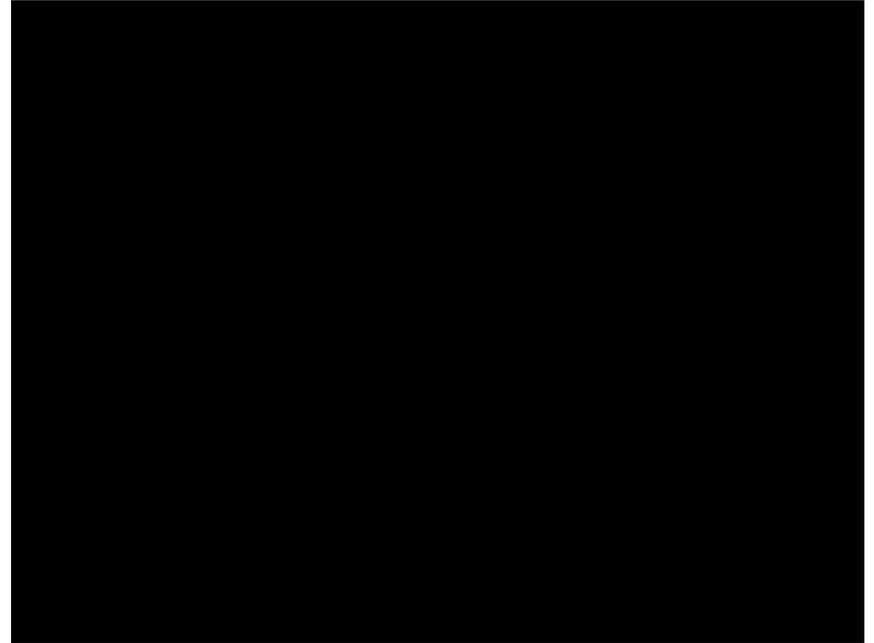
Common Cyber Safety Threats to Children

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Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is the ongoing, targeted harassment via digital communication tools that's meant to make the victim feel bad

Cyberbullying Statistics

- Victims are 1.9 times more likely to commit suicide
- 68% of children that have experienced cyberbullying have experienced mental health issues
- Over 40% of cyberbullying happens on Instagram, 39% on Facebook and 31% on Snapchat

"47 Worrying Cyberbullying Statistics for 2020 - Is Your Child Safe?" Tech Jury, 23 June 2020, techjury.net/blog/cyberbullying-statistics/.

Signs of Cyberbullying

- Becomes upset, sad or angry during or after being online or using their phone
- Withdraws from family or friends
- Expresses reluctance or refuses to participate in activities previously enjoyed
- Has an unexplained decline in grades
- Refuses to go to school or expresses anger or dissatisfaction with a specific class or school in general
- Increasingly reports symptoms of illness for which he or she wants to stay at home
- Shows signs of depression or sadness

"Cyberbullying Warning Signs." Anti-Defamation League, www.adl.org/resources/tools-and-strategies/cyberbullying-warning-signs.

Online Predators

- Online predators have been using the anonymity of the internet to prey on children through different social media apps and chat rooms as it is very easy to conceal their identity
- They visit sites that children frequent and many times can search for kids by interests and locations
- Predators often "groom" kids by establishing trust with them so they feel like they are the only ones who understand them
- Their goal is to ultimately meet the child to engage in a sexual relationship

Predators Actions
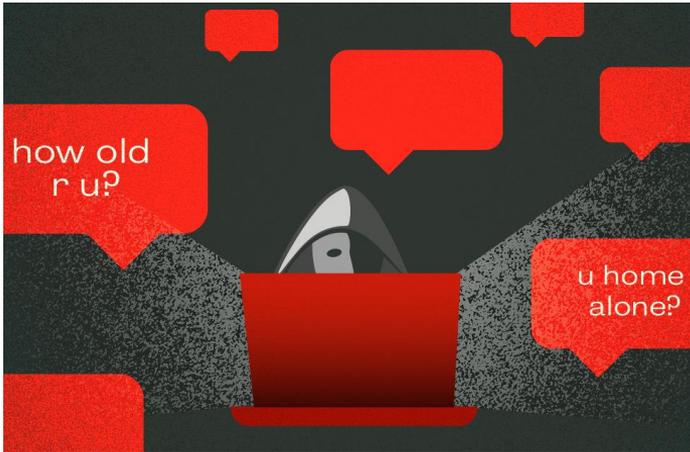
- Prey on teen's desire for romance, adventure, and sexual information
- Develop trust and secrecy: manipulate child by listening to and sympathizing with child's problems and insecurities
- Affirm feelings and choices of child
- Exploit natural sexual curiosities of child
- Ease inhibitions by gradually introducing sex into conversations or exposing them to pornography
- Flatter and compliment the child excessively, sends gifts, and invests time, money, and energy to groom child
- Develop an online relationship that is romantic, controlling, and upon which the child becomes dependent
- Drive a wedge between the child and his or her parents and friends
- Make promises of an exciting, stress-free life, tailored to the youth's desire
- Make threats, and often will use child pornography featuring their victims to blackmail them into silence

Warning Signs of Predators

- Becomes secretive about online activities
- Becomes obsessive about being online
- Gets angry when he or she can't get online
- Receives phone calls from people you do not know or makes calls to numbers that you do not recognize
- Receives gifts, mail, or packages from someone you do not know
- Withdraws from family and friends
- Changes screens or turns off computer when an adult enters a room
- Begins downloading pornography online

Online Scams

- Romance scam
- Overpayment scam
- Quick money promise
- Impersonation scam
- Fake shopping sites
- Phishing scam
- Unexpected prize scam
- Nigerian letter scam
- Online tech support scam

Signs of Online Scams

- Grammatical Errors
- Foreign offers
- Emotional manipulation
- Talent searches
- Scholarship scams

Activity – Group Discussion

1. How many of these applications do you recognize?

2. How many of these do you know the purpose of?

3. How many of these do your children use?

4. How many of you know your children's passwords?

FIFTEEN APPS PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT — Courtesy of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office UPDATED JULY 2019

How to Approach Your Kids about Cyber Safety

- Reassure your kids that you are interested in their life, offline and online
- Ask your child to show you what they enjoy doing online or apps they're using so you can understand them
- Be positive but also open about anything you're worried about.
- Ask them if they're worried about anything and let them know they can come to you
- Ask them about their friends online and how they know they are who they say they are
- Listen for the reasons why your child wants to use apps or site you don't think are suitable
- Ask your child what they think's okay for children of different ages so they feel involved in the decision making

Best Practices

- Keep your children's computer in a common area of the home to monitor their activity
- Check your child's browser history frequently
- Use security software or tools
- Activate privacy features through your browser or internet service provider
- Know what other computers or devices your child is using
- Know your children's passwords
- Watch for changes in your child's behavior that may indicate cyberbullying or contact with an online sexual predator

References

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- Nulsen, Charise Rohm, et al. "A Complete Guide to Potentially Dangerous Apps All Parents Should Be Aware Of." *FamilyEducation*, 15 May 2019, www.familyeducation.com/mobile-apps/a-complete-guide-to-potentially-dangerous-apps-all-parents-should-be-aware-of.
- "Privacy and Internet Safety." *Common Sense Media: Ratings, Reviews, and Advice*, www.commonsensemedia.org/privacy-and-internet-safety.
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- "47 Worrying Cyberbullying Statistics for 2020 - Is Your Child Safe?" *TechJury*, 23 June 2020, techjury.net/blog/cyberbullying-statistics/.
- "Protecting Your Child's Privacy Online." *Consumer Information*, 4 Sept. 2019, www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0031-protecting-your-childs-privacy-online.

Thank You