November: Gaming Chats and Online Strangers

PARENT AWARENESS FLYER • GRADES K-5 • 2026–2027

WHAT FAMILIES SHOULD KNOW

Games such as Roblox and Minecraft can include chat, user-generated worlds, and invitations to other platforms.

WARNING SIGNS TO RECOGNIZE

• A new online “friend” asking for a phone number

• Requests to switch to private messages

• Unexpected gifts or promises in exchange for secrets

TRY THESE CONVERSATION STARTERS

“Who can talk to you in this game?”

“What would you do if someone asked where you live?”

“Can we look at your game settings together?”

THREE PRACTICAL STEPS

• Restrict chat and contact settings where possible.

• Keep gaming in shared spaces.

• Block and report suspicious contacts.

IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG: Stay calm, support your child, save relevant messages or links (do not forward intimate images), and report urgent threats to law enforcement. Report suspected child sexual exploitation at **report.cybertip.org**. For immediate danger, call 911.

Family resources: missingkids.org/netsmartz | commonsensemedia.org | fbi.gov