November: Gaming Chats and Online Strangers

PARENT AWARENESS FLYER • GRADES 9-12 • 2026–2027

WHAT FAMILIES SHOULD KNOW
Private gaming and Discord communities can be sources of connection, but also scams, coercion, and exploitation.

WARNING SIGNS TO RECOGNIZE

- Online-only relationships demanding secrecy
- Pressure to send money or images
- Requests to install unfamiliar software

TRY THESE CONVERSATION STARTERS

“How do you verify an online identity?”

“What makes a request manipulative?”

“When would you leave or report a server?”

THREE PRACTICAL STEPS

- Enable multi-factor authentication.
- Avoid unknown links and financial transfers.
- Report grooming or threats promptly.

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