November: Gaming Chats and Online Strangers

PARENT AWARENESS FLYER • GRADES 6-8 • 2026–2027

WHAT FAMILIES SHOULD KNOW
Gaming voice chats, private servers, and Discord communities may connect students with unknown adults.

WARNING SIGNS TO RECOGNIZE

• A gaming contact asks to move to encrypted chat

• Offers of gifts, currency, or money

• Requests for personal details or photos

TRY THESE CONVERSATION STARTERS

“How do you know who someone really is online?”

“Has anyone asked you to move to another app?”

“What would make you block or report someone?”

THREE PRACTICAL STEPS

• Review server memberships and chat settings.

• Limit unknown direct messages.

• Discuss grooming tactics without blaming the child.

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