

Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins

Stop Block and Talk

STOP BLOCK and TALK

Empowering kids and families to be safe and kind online.

Teach your kids the **STOPBLOCKTALK** approach:

STOP: Be careful about what you post and say or share with others.

BLOCK: Anyone who bothers you in any way. Do not feel bad about doing so. Report them if necessary.

TALK: To someone you trust if something is bothering you.



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Instagram is a photo-sharing site where users follow others to view their photos and videos and chat. Users should keep accounts private and only allow those they know personally to follow them. Can be used to livestream.



Snapchat is a photo/video/story sharing app that claims to auto-delete pictures after a given time. However, pictures can still be saved so only appropriate content should be shared.



Twitter allows users to share short statements, links and pictures. Accounts should be private to protect personal info and prevent strangers from sending direct messages.



Facebook (w/ Messenger) is one of the most popular social networking sites. Personal information should be limited and care should be taken when posting and sharing. Can be used to broadcast live. Messenger is a tool of Facebook. Users can message and call their FB connections.



kik. **Kik** is a mobile messaging app where users can instant message and share pictures with other users. There is often mature content in texts and photos on this site. Children should only correspond with users they know personally. Should be 17+ to use.



Ask.fm is a website that allows users to anonymously ask questions to other users. Due to the anonymity, questions can be graphic and rude in nature, and it's important to monitor use.



Whisper is an app that allow users to "confess" and post a secret anonymously. Users then comment and can connect using private chat.



Tinder is a dating app that facilitates communication between mutually interested users, allowing matches to chat. Users should take caution when using this app as it reveals a person's location.



Reddit is a content sharing site. Users may post anything from pictures to videos to personal stories. Content can be mature and graphic in nature.



Minecraft, Madden, Call of Duty, and more are games that can be played online. All have chat, talk, pics, video, and more. Xbox/PS4 is just like a computer/phone.



YouTube is a video sharing site that can be accessed online. Users can create profiles that other users may subscribe to. Profiles should be private. Can be used to livestream.



TikTok is a global video community where users create and share short video clips (previously called music.ly). As with most apps, there can be mature content including self-harm and pornographic material. Strangers can follow public accounts and instant messaging and comments allow people to communicate easily. Most users seek as many likes, followers and fans as possible.



Fornite is a multi-platform last survivor standing video game. Users can play solo or in squads and kids often play with strangers they are paired with online. With mics and headphones enabled (which is usually the case) people have a direct line to your child. Offensive profanity and sexually explicit language is common. Check parental controls carefully and watch out for V-buck scams.

See reverse for tips on how to talk with kids about this topic.

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Q: At what age should I allow my child to use social media or play online games?

A: When they (and you) can have a good conversation about what might be encountered online: Sexual material, offensive language / images and predators who might attempt to connect with them.

And be cool: If your child tells you something upsetting, try to stay calm and tell them you will help them. Don't ask why they didn't tell sooner. *Thank them for telling you now.*

Online resources:

www.connectsafely.org

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

www.netsmartz.org

www.commonsense.org

To report an image or video:

www.cybertipline.com

Starters

- Can you show me some of your apps? Which one would you say you like the most?
- Which app do you check the most?
- Which app makes you feel the best? Which one sometimes makes you feel bad? How come?
- Can you show me something funny you've seen on Tik Tok?
- How about showing me some of your friends' profiles on Instagram?
- Let's see what pictures they have up, and how much we can learn about them.
- Let's read some of the comments on the pictures and see if any are a good or bad idea.
- How about YouTube? What is your favorite video right now?
- Can you show me how to use Snap Chat? Can you show me some of the filters you use?

Follow-up

- Has anyone ever posted a picture of you that made you feel embarrassed?
What did you do when that happened?
- Have you ever gotten a text from someone you didn't know?
What did they say to you?

- *Do people sometimes ask you personal info like how old you are, what you like, etc.?*
What do you tell them?
- *Has anyone ever asked you a question that was kind of rude?*
- What about a question that was kind of sexual?
What did you do?
- *Has anyone ever asked you for a pic? And meant a nude?*
What did you do?
- Has anyone ever sent you a nude? I know that happens and you can tell me. How about any of your friends? Have they?
- Has anyone ever tried to meet up with you? Said they would pick you up from somewhere?
What did you do?
- **Is there anything you are worried about telling me? It's ok, you can.**
- **Is there anyone else who could you talk to about something that is bothering you?**
- **I'm so glad you showed me this stuff. You can always talk to me about these things and you will not be in trouble for something if you need help.**
- **If something is too hard to talk about, you can always write it down.**