



Organizer: Connect for Freedom

Age/Grade Level: Ages 11–12 (6th Grade)

Lesson Title: Online Safety & Understanding Online Enticement

Instructional Time Required: One Session

Lesson Objectives: Youth should be able to:

- Understand what appropriate versus inappropriate behavior is online.
- Identify and implement strategies to stay safe online.
- Understand what online enticement is and strategies predators use on minors.
- Differentiate between online enticement and cyberbullying.
- Explain what grooming is and identify grooming tactics.

Lesson Overview:

This lesson starts with describing what is appropriate and inappropriate to post online and some questions to consider before posting. The goal is to ensure that youth can understand what safe online behavior is. Participants will watch a short video called “Your Photo Fate” created by NetSmartz, which highlights the importance of thinking before you send something online. Just because someone intends for a message, picture, or video to be private, does not mean that it will stay that way. Participants will learn about online enticement and grooming, as well as tactics used for both crimes. Participants will hear a survivor’s story to understand the consequences of not being safe online and take know2protect’s Pledge2Protect, vowing to stay safe online.

Key Terms in Lesson:

Cyberbullying- any type of bullying that takes place online (social media platforms, texting, gaming apps, etc.). Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can also include sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation.

Grooming- the process in which an offender sexually abuses a minor. This is often the first step in fostering a relationship with them and building trust.

Online enticement- involves an individual communicating with a minor on the internet with the intent to commit a sexual offense or abduction.

Lesson Enrichment Activity: Online Safety Jeopardy

Lesson Handout: *NetSmartz* Think Before You Send

Youth Assessment Recommendations:

- Have you ever spoken to a stranger online?
- Do you understand the difference between online enticement and cyberbullying?
- What are some tactics that online predators use to groom minors?
- Can you come up with five strategies to keep yourself safe online?
- Do you think it is normal for an adult to want to talk to a child online? Why or why not?

Important Notice: Connect for Freedom has compiled information and materials from the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign, Polaris Project, Thorn, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, and other reputable organizations.