

What You Should Know

GAMING SAFETY



Parental involvement is critical when it comes to helping children game more safely. Take an active interest in the games that your child plays and wants to buy. You can research games' ratings and content on www.esrb.org. This website is maintained by the Entertainment Software Rating Board which rates thousands of games each year.

KNOW



Know which safety features are available on the gaming equipment that your child uses—a headset may have voice-masking features, for example.

KEEP



Keep gaming consoles in an easy-to-supervise location and be aware of other places where your child may be accessing games.

TELL



Tell your child never to give out personal information while gaming or agree to meet anyone outside of the game.

SET RULES



Set rules about how long your child may play, what types of games are appropriate, and who else may participate.

HAVE



Have your child check with you before using a credit or debit card online.

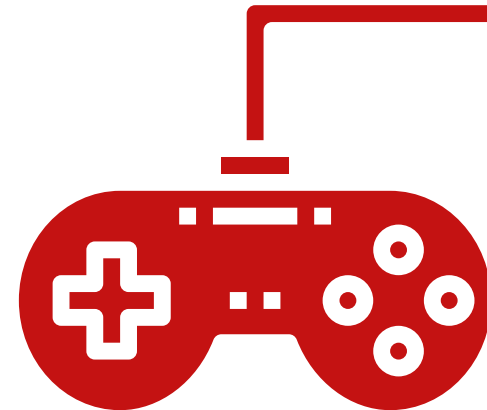
CHECK



Check to see if the games your child plays have reporting features or moderators. Review these features with your child. Remember, you can also report inappropriate online interactions with children to Report.CyberTip.org.

START A DISCUSSION WITH YOUR CHID

- Would you show me how some of your favorite games are played?
- Could we play together?
- How do you respond if someone bothers you while you are gaming?
- How much do you let people know about you while gaming?
- What kinds of people do you game with?
- Do you feel safe while you are gaming online? Why or why not?



Source:

NATIONAL
CENTER FOR
**MISSING &
EXPLOITED**
CHILDREN
www.missingkids.org

For more resources visit NetSmartz.org



Healing Hearts
CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

662-349-1555 • www.healingheartscac.org