

YOU CAN CHAT IN THAT? TIPS FOR SAFE CELL PHONE USE

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDENT'S PERSONAL DEVICES

DID YOU KNOW??

Many common apps and mobile games include chat features that allow users to communicate about the game, pictures, or videos. This feature uses the screen name of users which provides some level of anonymity. This also can mean that your child may be communicating with someone they do not know in real life.

WHAT GAMES/APPS ALLOW CHAT?

Some common apps that allow chat include:

Among Us



TikTok Direct Messages

Instagram Direct Messages



TikTok Comments



WHAT IF MY CHILD USES ONE OF THESE APPS OR ANOTHER THAT ALLOWS CHAT?

These are popular games and apps for children/teenagers. It is important to talk to your child about the features of these apps and what your family policy is regarding talking to others online.

SMART POSTING

Remind your child that their profile, including their username, and what they write can be seen by a broader audience than they realize. Encourage your child to only share or post things that they would be comfortable with a teacher, parent, or grandparent reading.

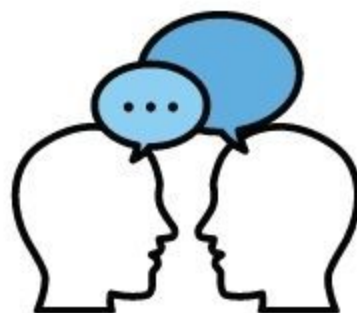


PRIVACY

Tell your child about what is safe to share online- such as a tip for the game they are playing- and what is not safe- like their town, address, phone number, school, or full name.

KEEP TALKING

Keep the lines of communication open and encourage your child to talk about the games and apps they are using. Ask questions about what is happening in them and have regular conversations about online activities.



QUICK DEFINITION:

Personal Information: Data that can be used to identify you, like your name, address, birth date, or social security number.

LEARN MORE:

Go to: [STOP.THINK.CONNECT. Chatting with Kids About Being Online](https://www.stop.think.connect.org/)