BE VIGILANT AGAINST ONLINE PREDATORS

With the accessibility of the Internet today, children and youth can be easy targets for online scams and predators as they might take what they see at face value.

Online predators usually search social networks and target child-oriented screen names. They try to gain the trust of the user through a process called "grooming", which includes the following ways:

Looking for child-oriented screen names

Striking up a conversation that interest the child in developing an online relationship

Showing interest in the user and gaining their trust through themed chat rooms based on specific interests such as anime or comic books.

Searching through social networking site profiles

Building them up by complimenting them

Worried that your child is at risk online?

Here are some signs to look out for:
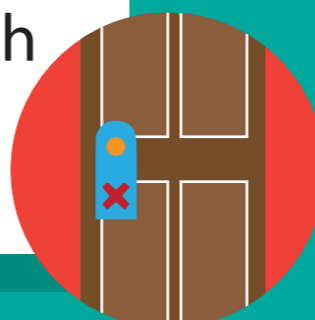
- Spending a lot of time online (especially at night)
- Finding pornography on the computer — R21
- Receiving phone calls, mail or gifts from people you do not know
- Withdrawal from normal activities such as family gatherings
- Switching or closing screens quickly when a family member approaches
- Using a separate/ different account for e-mail or social networking sites

Be S.U.R.E. when you are looking for more information on online predators or child safety. Generally, website domains ending with the following are more credible:

.edu   Educational   ✓
.gov   Government   ✓
.mil   Military   ✓
.org   Organization   ✓

References :

- http://www.familysafecomputers.org/predators.htm
- https://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/parent-guide/parent-guide
- http://www.nlb.gov.sg/sure/snuffing-out-online-predators/
- http://www.internetsafety101.org/grooming.htm

To read more on S.U.R.E. infographics, please visit *nlb.gov.sg/sure/infographics*

fb.com/sgsure
nlb.gov.sg/sure

Source
Look at its origins.
Is it trustworthy?

Understand
Know what you're reading.
Search for clarity.

Research
Dig deeper. Go beyond
the initial source.

Evaluate
Find the balance. Exercise
fair judgement.

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