



TEEN PSA: "PROMISES" 1

TIME
30 minutes

OVERVIEW

Students watch the Teen PSA: "Promises" twice, listening for promises someone first met online could make. Students compare the promises and intentions of the unknown person versus promises and intentions of the trusted adults in their lives and discuss how they can know whom to turn to when they are feeling sad or alone.

PROGRAM GOAL

Enhance the ability of children to recognize dangers on the Internet

INTERNET SAFETY MESSAGE

- I WILL NEVER MEET IN PERSON WITH ANYONE I HAVE FIRST "MET" ONLINE WITHOUT DISCUSSING IT WITH MY PARENTS OR GUARDIAN. Since the biggest danger to my safety is getting together with someone I have first "met" online, I won't meet in person with anyone unless my parents or guardian agrees to the meeting, they will go with me to the meeting, and the meeting will be in a public place.

MATERIALS

- computer lab or computer connected to an LCD projector
- Teen PSA: "Promises" from the NetSmartz Teens program
- chalkboard or whiteboard

ACTIVITY

Tell the students you are going to show them a public-service announcement (PSA) about Internet safety. Show the students the Teen PSA. After they view it, tell the students the title of the PSA is "Promises." *How does the title "Promises" apply to the public-service announcement?*

Ask the students to carefully listen to the different promises someone they've met online might make as they watch the Teen PSA a second time. Then divide the chalkboard in half. On one side write "Unknown People" and on the other side write "Trusted Adults." On the "unknown" side, make a list of the promises the students heard in the Teen PSA. They may come up with other ideas as well.

How do people you've first met online try to get you to trust them? Why do you think some people believe the promises? What is the intention of a person like this?

Ask the students to now think of adults they can trust and invite some to share with the class. On the "trusted adults" side of the board, list promises the trusted adults in their lives make to them. (*Examples include to keep them safer, take them places, provide food and housing, always be there for them.*) Some of the promises on both sides of the board might be the same.

If some of the promises between "unknown people" and "trusted adults" are the same, then what makes them different from each other? What is the intention of a trusted adult? How can you know whom you can trust?

Tell the students you know it is difficult to be a teenager. It is common for teens to seek acceptance and sometimes feel like no one understands them. Caution them to recognize when they are feeling this way. Explain that in these situations, it is important to consciously choose to turn to an adult they trust, rather than someone they don't know in person who may not have their best interests in mind.

You may wish to invite the school counselor to assist you or to say a few words at the end of the presentation.

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