Internet Safety- November 1, 2017

Detective Charles F. Hollendoner Chicago Police Department Special Investigations Unit

- o Internet Safety includes ANY device connected to WiFi
 - a. While Facebook was the most popular social app for children, there's now so much more available and created all the time
 - b. Younger children are more likely to answer pop up surveys and quizzes than other students
 - c. Teach your children not to give any personal information about themselves online
- o <u>Solicitation</u>
 - a. 80% are men in the 23-30 age range that try to access our kids online
 - b. Sometimes, kids are curious and innocently engage in conversations when playing online games.
 - c. Predators know how to ask probing questions
 - d. Your child could accidently give them their name, address, school information, etc.
 - e. Teach your children "red flags" of a predator:
 - i. "Make sure you delete our message"
 - ii. "Don't tell anyone about this"
 - iii. "You'll get into as much trouble as me, if you tell"
 - f. Kids are scared they may accidently get into trouble and their parents will take away their computer privileges
- o Online Grooming
 - a. Predators usually start the conversations very casually and then it turns into a full-blown relationship
 - b. Check your phone bills and look to see if there is a number that stands out on the bill you don't know
 - c. Ask your child questions
 - d. You are able to determine what type of messages on your bill
 - i. SMS- is a word text
 - ii. MMS- is a Multi-media message
 - e. Ask your child about it
- o <u>Safeguard Personal Information-</u>
 - a. Boys, in particular, enjoy playing online games
 - b. Games, like Roblox, is where a lot of perverts go to groom boys
 - c. Kids are so focused on the game, they don't realize they are sharing information about themselves
 - d. Children SHOULD NOT share the name of their school, otherwise, predators know where your children are 8 hours a day, 5 days a week

- o <u>Passwords-</u>
 - a. Teach your children not to share their passwords with their peers
 - i. Girls, for example, tend to share everything with their best friends
 - ii. However, when there is an argument, girls have a tendency to go into social apps and post inappropriate content, change passwords, etc.
 - b. PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ALL OF YOUR KIDS' ONLINE PASSWORDS
- o Computer Devices
 - a. Make sure you turn locations OFF on your settings for pictures and video
 - i. Predators are able to determine the longitude and latitude of where a
 - picture was taken; accidently telling them where your child has been
- o Urban Dictionary
 - a. <u>https://www.urbandictionary.com</u>
 - b. Huge for parents to know
 - c. Always learn the slang words used between peers
- Inappropriate Information
 - a. Society judges on social media content; make smart choices online
 - b. Avoid offensive language
 - c. Threats of violence- law enforcement could get involved
 - d. Admission of underage drinking or drug use
 - e. Hate speech
 - f. Group messages; EVERYONE IS RESPONSIBLE whether they are the ones saying it or not
 - i. Teach your children to remove themselves from the group text and REPORT it
 - g. Usernames
 - i. Create a username that sounds positive and not offensive
- <u>Sexting-</u>
 - a. Popular age range: 13-18
 - b. Any child under the age of 18 to take a lewd picture of themselves is violating the law
 - c. Oftentimes children don't realize they could be in legal trouble for taking a picture of themselves and sending it on to others
 - d. If anyone saves, sends, forwards a picture they are also violating the law
 - e. The above would be considered child pornography and they might have to register as a sex offender for 10 years
 - f. The best way to avoid this is DON'T DO IT
 - g. If your child receives an inappropriate sexual picture, they can't be responsible for what was sent to them; they are responsible if they do anything with it
 - h. Chicago is seeing about 7-8 new cases every week of child sexting

- o <u>Sextortion</u>
 - a. Sometimes predators will encourage children to send ONE lewd picture of themselves and then hold that picture over the child's head to have them send even more pictures
 - b. Teach your kids that it is okay to say no and to never give a lewd picture to anyone
- o Cyberbullying
 - a. A new trend is that kids will create fake profiles of others and post inappropriate posts and/or pictures of their target, which can have long lasting social consequences for the victim and damage their self-esteem
 - b. You Tube "Amy Todd's video" and if your kid has seen this video, ask them why?
 - c. Teach your children to report cyberbullying when they see it
 - d. Enforce a "no electronics" policy when your child is in the bathroom and/or when they go to their bedroom for the night
 - i. Unmonitored electronics is where bullying and such usually begins
 - e. Teach your kids it's cool to be kind
 - f. LOOK AT YOUR CHILD'S PHONE from time-to-time. You have that right; you are trying to protect them
- o New Apps
 - а. <u>КІК</u>
 - i. Texting app that you only need WiFi (not a phone)
 - ii. It has its own language and community
 - iii. Based in Canada; hard for U.S. to regulate
 - b. <u>SnapChat-</u>
 - i. Disappears in 10 seconds but children often take screen shots that make them permanent
 - ii. SnapKeep and SnapBox were newly created apps where others save and share the information
 - c. <u>Whisper-</u>
 - i. "Boys" usually go here to tell their secrets, usually about their sexuality
 - ii. This is where predators also go!
 - d. Omegle
 - i. Uses webcams and children talk to strangers yet the names are hidden so you don't really know who your child is speaking with
- o Parent Involvement
 - a. You have to be their parent and help kids stay safe
 - b. Parents could be held accountable if you do not act on a problem; could be civil liability around it
 - c. Recommends phones that don't have access to texting or other means of communication other than phone calls until High School