

Respect Each Other: Family Activity

Younger children often don't realise that some messages can be easily misunderstood online or that they can, and should, do something if they witness unkind acts. Sometimes what is meant as a harmless joke shared in public can end up upsetting and embarrassing others, even their friends.

This activity will help your child develop a better understanding of what it means to be respectful to others online.

The 'what would you do?' game

Read the scenarios and then ask each member of the family to say what they would do in each situation.

A friend is upset because someone is sending them nasty messages online.

You have also noticed that people are leaving cruel comments on the photos they post.

You are playing an online game and in the chat forum someone is posting nasty jokes and messages that you don't find funny and are upsetting to read.

A friend sends you a video of classmates being bullied that they find funny but you find it upsetting.

You comment on a friend's haircut in a message saying you think they look different. You meant it in a nice way but they seem upset.

Family chat:

Why is it important to be kind to others, both online and offline?

Quick guide

Each family member will come up with their own answers and have their opinions for each scenario. This is not a bad thing and it is good to encourage a family discussion.

Scenarios 1 & 3: Even if something bad is happening to someone else, your child can be an upstander: someone who recognises when something is wrong and acts to make it right. When we stand up for what is right, and do our best to help support and protect someone who is being hurt, we are being socially responsible.

Scenario 2: Even if you're not a tech expert, you can help them solve their problems. Flag up that your child should come to you, or another trusted adult, if they are worried about anything.

Scenario 4: Discuss how it is easy to misunderstand written messages that are not said out loud, face-to-face. You could come up with some more examples together.

Now play the **Interland** game together. Visit **Kind Kingdom** where you need to stop the spread of negativity everywhere and help restore the peaceful nature of Interland.

Open a web browser on your desktop or mobile device (e.g., tablet), and visit g.co/KindKingdom