

Week 4 Theme: Be Smart and Safe Online

CYBER
AWARENESS
MONTH

Quick Tips for Staying Safe when Online Gaming



Adopt Safe Gaming Practices

With online gaming being even more popular these days due to the pandemic, students and parents alike should consider adopting safe gaming practices.

- Always read and understand privacy policies and Terms of Service agreements
- Create strong passwords and enable multi-factor authentication where possible
- Choose restrictive privacy settings
- Don't give away personal information like your full name, age, school, or home address when creating a personal profile
- Don't reveal any personal information with other players
- Be careful when clicking on links within in-game chats – they could be phishing attempts
- Create a separate email address with a pseudonym or nickname that you use just for gaming
- Choose a nickname or a user name that does not reveal any personal information
- Adjust purchasing settings of the gaming app and/or device to avoid unintentional or unauthorized purchases



What you need to know

Most major games are now downloadable, wholly virtual and constantly connected. We now regularly play games with people around the world on a multitude of devices. With this comes many potential privacy risks.

In order to enable and fund multiplayer experiences and administer a network of contacts and interactions, companies need (and want) to collect more personal information from consumers.

When you are online gaming, gaming companies can collect everything from names, addresses, credit card information for billing purposes, email and IP addresses, feedback rankings from others, digital images and personalized profiles.

