Survivor Diaries

Overview

Students watch “Survivor Diaries” and use the Internet safety pledge and “Choice Cards” to identify which guidelines Ryan and Noah followed and which they did not. Students write a journal entry about a personal Internet experience to help teach younger students about online safety.

Materials / Preparation

- Computer lab or computer connected to an LCD projector or television monitor
- Video - “Survivor Diaries”
- Attachment 1 - “Choice Cards”
- Journal, hand-written or typed
- “Internet Safety Pledge for Middle and High School” (print from NetSmartz.org)

30 minutes

Introduction

Pass out a copy of the pledge to all students and review it together. As you watch “Survivor Diaries” try to identify which guidelines Ryan and Noah did and did not follow. Show “Survivor Diaries.”

Discussion questions and possible solutions:

What do both Ryan and Noah have in common? They communicated with someone they did not know online.

What made Ryan more vulnerable and therefore more likely to get involved with someone online? His parents were going through a divorce; he felt alone; he needed someone to pay attention to him.

Though Ryan never agreed to meet, how do you think someone was able to find him? Even if he didn’t share his address, Ryan probably gave away personal information without realizing it.

What kinds of information should never be shared with people you first meet online? Name, gender, phone number, address, age, school name or mascot, or anything that could help someone to identify your location.

It seems like Noah knew better than to communicate with someone he didn’t know online and then meet this person. Why do you think he did it anyway? He was curious; he thought nothing would happen; he was bored.

Activity

Break up students into 10 groups. Pass out a “Choice Card” (attachment 1) to each group. Each card identifies the teen the group will be focusing on and the pledge guideline they will be testing. Using the pledge for details, ask students to decide whether or not the teen followed the guideline and then provide a detailed explanation to support their decision.

Follow-Up

Explain to students that they have been asked to serve as an Internet safety mentor to a student in elementary school. Ask students to write in their journals about an experience they had online that they can use to help teach this student how to be safer online.
**Group 1**  
**Teen: Ryan**

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will talk with my parents or guardians about their expectations and ground rules for going online.

Did Ryan follow the guideline? ____ YES  ____ NO  
Explain:

If not, what could Ryan have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made? What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?

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**Group 2**  
**Teen: Ryan**

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will keep my identity private.

Did Ryan follow the guideline? ____ YES  ____ NO  
Explain:

If not, what could Ryan have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made? What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?
Group 3  Teen: Ryan

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will never respond to any online communication that makes me feel uncomfortable.

Did Ryan follow the guideline?  ____ YES  ____ NO
Explain:

If not, what could Ryan have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made?  What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?

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Group 4  Teen: Ryan

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will never meet in person with anyone I have first “met” online without discussing it with my parents or guardians.

Did Ryan follow the guideline?  ____ YES  ____ NO
Explain:

If not, what could Ryan have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made?  What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?
Group 5  Teen: Ryan

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will respect other people’s rights while online.

Did Ryan follow the guideline?  ____ YES  ____ NO
Explain:

If not, what could Ryan have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made? What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?

Group 6  Teen: Ryan

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will talk with my parents or guardians about their expectations and ground rules for going online.

Did Noah follow the guideline?  ____ YES  ____ NO
Explain:

If not, what could Noah have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made? What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?
Group 7  Teen: Noah

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will keep my identity private.

Did Noah follow the guideline?  ____ YES  ____ NO
Explain:

If not, what could Noah have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made?
What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?

Group 8  Teen: Noah

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will never respond to any online communication that makes me feel uncomfortable.

Did Noah follow the guideline?  ____ YES  ____ NO
Explain:

If not, what could Noah have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made?
What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?
**Group 9   Teen: Noah**

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will never meet in person with anyone I have first “met” online without discussing it with my parents or guardians.

Did Noah follow the guideline?  ____ YES  ____ NO
Explain:

If not, what could Noah have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made?
What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?

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**Group 10   Teen: Noah**

Internet Safety Pledge Guideline: I will respect other people’s rights while online.

Did Noah follow the guideline?  ____ YES  ____ NO
Explain:

If not, what could Noah have done to better protect himself?

Do you think Ryan and Noah regret the decisions they made?
What do you think they learned?

What were Ryan and Noah trying to teach you?