



April 1, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As a part of our continued efforts to ensure the safety of children and prevent child abuse, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia has introduced another lesson from our Safe Environment child abuse prevention program for young people. The lesson for tenth grade students focused on the dangers of cyber (or Internet) predators. Cyber predators are individuals who use the internet to cultivate relationships with young people for the purposes of sexual abuse.

As a result of this lesson, your child should recognize the risks of online predators and be able to identify warning signs of potentially dangerous situations, including grooming tactics. Additionally, your child should understand how to avoid risky online behaviors, including the dangers of sharing too much information.

As a follow-up activity, we suggest when students get home they take the “six clicks challenge,” similar to the one in the video.” This would be a great activity for you to do together! Starting from a social media site, such as Facebook or Twitter, what can students find out about themselves in just six clicks? Encourage them to use some of the techniques Matt used in the video.

You may view the videos used in this lesson on the Netsmartz.org website at [www.netsmartz.org/predators](http://www.netsmartz.org/predators) . Students viewed “[6 Degrees of Information](#)” and “[Amy’s Choice](#)”. The Netsmartz website is also an excellent resource for parents who would like to learn more about this issue.

Remember open communication with your child is a key to success in all child abuse prevention efforts. [Tips for Establishing Open and Honest Parent-Child Communication](#) can be found on the Office for Child and Youth Protection’s website at [www.childyouthprotection.org](http://www.childyouthprotection.org) under Protect- Resources for Parents.

Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions.

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