SCARY CHALLENGES ONLINE

Insert scary picture here. Is that a good idea?

NO NEED TO SHOW SCARY THINGS

What parents and schools need to know to keep children safe from the latest dares, scares, threats & challenges

There are always stories going round about nasty things online and you may be asked to share warnings about them. The ones with clever names and funny pictures are usually fakes and hoaxes, but of course bad things happen online too and we all want to keep young people safe from them.

Whether a scare is real or not, we would advise against sharing warnings about specific challenges or even 'bad apps', sites or games. Read on to find out why...and what to do instead.

Why shouldn't we share specific warnings?

Scare-shares can cause:

1. A false sense of security
2. Free publicity
3. Unproductive panic

What can we do instead?

Top tips

1. Talk about **GENERAL** risks and what can go wrong online wherever you are
2. Use **NON-SCARY EXAMPLES** to talk about how to respond to dares, challenges, scares and threats
3. Make sure children and young people know who to talk to and where to get **HELP** from different sources
4. Focus on the **POSITIVES** – after all, if we say it's all bad, they won't listen to us

Still not sure? Have a look at what the experts at CEOP say about online scares or how the Samaritans advise us to talk about challenges.

NOT A GOOD IDEA

THE DAILY PANIC

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BEWARE OF THE ORANGE ZEBRA CHALLENGE!

It's scary for children, so let's show it to them, tell them others are scared so they should be scared too, and then tell them the name so they know what to search for.

LGfL DigiSafe
Keeping children safe