Online Safety Conversation Starters

for children aged 7-9 years

"Why is this game so exciting/interesting for you? Do you have any games that make you feel nervous?"

"I need you to ask my permission if you'd like to use a screen. I will probably say 'yes' but it's important that you ask because I need to keep you safe online.

Can you always remember to do that?"

"What are your top three favourite things to do on a screen at the moment?"

"It's easy to see your friends on video chat, but when you are on games, do you always know who you are playing with? Do you chat with them?"

"Whenever you use the camera function it's never ok to photograph underneath your clothes.
Can you remember that?"

"So, you'd like to get a new game. Let me take a look first. I'll check it out for a few days and get back to you with my thoughts.
I might like playing it too! But I need to make sure it's suitable for you."

"I need you to tell me if you see anything scary on your screen. Or if you see anything that makes you feel shocked. It's important that you tell me about that so we can make a safe digital footprint for you."

"I'd love to know more about Minecraft/Roblox (insert game name) please can you show me how to play?
Can we play together?"

"Just like in stories and films where there are goodies and baddies, it's the same on the internet.

Someone might start off acting like a goodie but then might make you feel uncomfortable or ask you to do things. It's important that you always let me know."

"I want you to know that if you ever see anything that makes you feel sad or worried, you can always come and tell me about it.
(And I won't be cross!)"

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preparing children to thrive online