

The following scenarios are designed to illustrate predators on the Internet. Copy the following scenarios and questions to your blog (create a post called Avoiding Predators) and answer the questions.

Once you have finished answering the questions write a short scenario like those found on this worksheet as a new post on your blog that shows a student at risk of being targeted by an online predator.

Avoiding Predators

Sarah became friends with NYMouse39 in a programming chatroom last year. They IM each other regularly, although they know each other only by screenname. NYMouse39 has given Sarah some really helpful coding tips and is kind and supportive when Sarah talks about her problems at school or with her parents. Lately, NYMouse39 has been suggesting that it might help to talk in person, and asking for Sarah's number. Sarah said she wasn't sure she should be giving it out online, and NYMouse39 wrote back, saying "i'm hurt u don't trust me, my # is 333-333-3333, call me later."

What does Sarah know about NYMouse39? What doesn't she know?

If you were Sarah, how would you handle this situation?

What would you do if you were online and someone you didn't know asked for personal information like a phone number, picture, or address?

What would you do if someone you felt you knew well online, but had never met in person, asked for personal information?

Chris has a friend on his MySpace page whose profile says she is a high school girl in a different state, although he has never met her personally. She keeps sending him messages with links to inappropriate websites that make Colin uncomfortable. When Colin writes back and asks her to stop, the friend gets angry, saying he led her on into thinking he'd like the sites. She also warns him that other people will agree with her. She says if he tells anyone, they'll know he's a pervert and he'll get in trouble, because it's really his fault. Chris feels really dirty and embarrassed about

the whole situation. He suspects his friend isn't who she says she is, but he's not sure he should tell anyone in case she's right.

Is Chris to blame for the websites this person sent him?

Why should Chris tell an adult right away about the situation?

Who are three adults Chris could go to to report this incident?

What else can Chris do to get out of the situation?