

# ONLINE GAMING



Adil loves exploring new games and challenging his friends online. His favorite part? Getting to interact with players from all over the world! But with all the excitement, Adil is also learning that staying safe is super important.

As he sets up his gaming account and joins new game rooms, Adil needs to be cautious. He'll need your help to learn how to avoid contact with strangers, recognize if someone tries to trick him, and know what to do if he's approached by someone he doesn't know. Let's go on this gaming adventure with Adil and make sure he can play online safely and confidently!



## What is Online Gaming?

Online gaming is a form of digital play that allows people to connect with friends, have fun, develop skills and learn new things! Unlike traditional offline gaming, where players use a single device and share physical space, online gaming requires a stable internet connection to enable real-time interaction between players in different locations! Games can be played on various devices, including computers, consoles, and mobile phones. They may be simple, casual games or complex multiplayer games with immersive worlds, often featuring different genres like adventure, sports, strategy, and role-playing.

# PLAY SAFE ONLINE



Help Adil make safe choices as he navigates an online gaming platform. Each choice you make will lead to a different outcome. Let's keep Adil safe!

You have a new friend request from @getthecoins\_123!  
They sent a message asking to play together.  
What should Adil do?

Accept the request and start playing.

Ignore and report @getthecoins\_123.

This could be risky! Try a safer option.

Great choice! Ignoring and reporting helps Adil avoid unwanted attention from strangers. Adil keeps playing safely.

Adil starts exploring games. They all look so fun and exciting! But then a message appears



What should Adil do?

Share his login info to get the coins.

Oh no! Adil's account gets hacked, and he loses all his progress and his account. Let's try a different option to keep Adil's account safe!

Ignore the message and report it.

Excellent decision! By staying away from offers that seem too good to be true, Adil protects his account from scams. He continues gaming without worry.

As Adil continues his game, a new player reaches out in the chat

Hey, what's your age and what school do you go to?

What should Adil do?

Give them the information.

Tell them it's private and continue the game.

Ignore or Block them

Not safe! Sharing personal details be risky, because you don't know if the other person is nice or mean. Let's try a safer choice!

Great response! Adil protects himself so he can have fun!

## Recognizing and Reporting Bullying Behaviors

Bullying in online games happens when players use mean messages, threats, or cheating to make others feel bad or ruin their experience. It can make gaming feel unsafe and less fun, but learning to recognize and report it can help keep the game positive for everyone.

### What can Bullying look like in Online Games?



Sending Mean Messages: They may insult, threaten, or make you feel bad



Spreading Rumors: They may say lies about you to other players.



Cheat or Sabotage: Some players might cheat on purpose or ruin your game experience.

## Responding to Bullying Behaviors

Stay Calm: Don't respond with anger; take a break if you need to



Block or Mute: Gaming Platforms let you silence or ignore a player who's being mean.

Report: In the next section, we will learn more about reporting Mechanisms



**Tell a Trusted Adult**: If you experience or witness online bullying, remember it's okay to reach out for help. Telling a trusted adult, like a parent, teacher, or counselor, can make a big difference and provide you with support.

# REPORTING BULLYING



## Reporting Mechanisms in Games

By reporting negative behavior, you're playing a role in creating a positive environment where everyone can enjoy the game.

**Report a Player:** If someone is being rude, hurtful, or saying inappropriate things, you can report them. Look for a "Report" button in the game menu or on the player's profile.

**Mute or Block a Player:** If someone is bothering you, most games allow you to mute or block them so they can't send you messages or join your games.

**Contact Game Support:** If you feel that the situation is serious or you feel threatened, you can contact the game's customer support team. They may ask you to describe what happened so they can take action to protect players. In such scenarios, remember not to delete anything. Instead, try to take screenshots of the bullying, to share with the support team!



If you or someone you know experiences serious bullying online, you can use the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal at [cybercrime.gov.in](https://www.cybercrime.gov.in). You can also call the Cyber Crime Helpline at 1930 for immediate help.

Look at the screenshot provided between two players in a game. Pay attention to how each person is communicating. Imagine you're reporting this situation to the game moderators. Practice typing out a report to explain the incident by clearly answering the following questions:

Is this online bullying? Which messages in the conversation seem mean? How do you think the person receiving the messages feels?

Hey noob, you're so bad at this game. Do you even know how to play?

I'm just learning. This is only my second game.

LOL, you should quit. You're making our team lose.

I'm trying my best... I just need more practice.

No one cares! Just go play something easy if you're so bad lol

That's really mean...

# SAFE GAMING

## Check Your Safe Gaming Setup!

Check all the boxes that apply to you.



- My account is set to private.
- I only play with friends I know in real life.
- I avoid sharing personal details like my real name or address.
- I know how to report a player who behaves badly.
- I avoid clicking on any links sent by other players.
- I keep my password private and secure.
- I take regular breaks from gaming.
- I have discussed gaming rules with my parents/guardians.
- I know my game's age rating and content warnings.
- I maintain a healthy balance between gaming and other activities.

## How Safe Are You?

10 - 12 boxes : You're a Gaming Safety Champion 

7-9 boxes: You're a Safety Savvy Player! 

4-6 boxes: You're a Safety Apprentice, but there's room to improve! 

Below 4 boxes: Time to make a few changes to stay safe while gaming! 

Grab a gaming buddy or friend. Together, read this pledge out loud to become Safe Gaming Buddies!

I promise to play safely and responsibly.

I promise to be kind and respectful to other players.

I promise to protect my personal information and keep it private.

I promise to follow the game rules and encourage others to do the same.

I promise to report any unsafe behavior I see in the game..

I promise to do my part to make the gaming world a safe and positive place for everyone!

Now you're official Safety Gaming Buddies! 

# ANSWER KEY

## PLAY SAFE ONLINE

You have a new friend request from @getthecoins\_123!  
They sent a message asking to play together.  
What should Adil do?

Ignore and report @getthecoins\_123.

Great choice! Ignoring and reporting helps Adil avoid unwanted attention from strangers. Adil keeps playing safely.

Adil starts exploring games. They all look so fun and exciting! But then a message appears

GET FREE GAME COINS!  
JUST SHARE YOUR  
LOG IN INFO!

What should Adil do?

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Excellent decision! By staying away from offers that seem too good to be true, Adil protects his account from scams. He continues gaming without worry.

As Adil continues his game, a new player reaches out in the chat

Hey, what's your age and what school do you go to?

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## REPORTING BULLYING

Is this online bullying? Which messages in the conversation seem mean? How do you think the person receiving the messages feels?

Yes. Refer to circled messages

What happened? How is this behaviour bullying? How does it make the player receiving the messages feel?

One player insulted another by calling them a "noob," saying they're "bad at the game," and telling them to quit. This is bullying because the comments are intentionally hurtful to make player feel inferior and unwelcome. The player on the receiving end would feel hurt, embarrassed, and discouraged.

Hey noob, you're so bad at this game. Do you even know how to play?

I'm just learning. This is only my second game.

LOL, you should quit. You're making our team lose.

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