Talking About Social Media

Respect, Responsibility, and Safety are important attributes to be discussed with children and young adults who are using social media. *Common Sense Media*'s article, "[11 Social Media Red Flags Parents Should Know About](#)" by Christine Elgersma is a great place to start if you are looking for discussion points about topics such as inappropriate content, cyberbullying, location tracking, and "temporary" pictures and videos. Helpful suggestions include: use the apps your child has, familiarize yourself with the ads that pop up and discuss strategies to deal with the marketing, look at who your child follows and who follows them, try a search inside the app to see if the results are appropriate, look for ways to enable content restrictions, review the need to report or block users who are unkind, learn how to turn off location settings, and reinforce that "temporary" pictures or videos, can be easily shared and stored.