Saffron Cyber Second

In Partnership with EIPS Committee of School Councils

"I Need More Followers."

Sarah was a 13 year old girl who had just received her first cell-phone. Sarah's friends informed her of all the new and exciting apps she could download, including Snap Chat. Her friends then informed her that she would need to turn on her location services so that her friends would always know where she was and who she was with. This feature is called Snap Map and was a new fad within Sarah's friend group and school. Though Sarah knew this was not safe and her parents told her to keep her location services off, she did not want to feel left out or excluded from her friends' online activities. Weeks went on and Sarah continued to add people to her snap chat account. Her friend began to brag about how many friends they had on the app. Sarah then started accepting friend requests from people she did not know in order to gain a sense of popularity among her peers. In doing so, Sarah added an older man disguised as a young boy. With her location services still activated anyone she added to her account could now see her every move. When walking home from school, Sarah noticed a man in a truck slowly following her. Sarah's parents however, told her that if she ever suspected someone to be following her, she would need to immediately call the police. Sarah did this, and the man following her was arrested upon further investigation.

SAFFRON TIP

PRIVATE ACCOUNTS ARE KEY

Talk to youth about setting a private account so only friends can see their stories. Encourage them to avoid adding people they do not know. In addition, instruct youth to turn off their location settings and avoid the Snap Map. It is highly accurate, giving away information like a home address and school location.