

Janet's Story

The Washington State Internet Crimes Against Children is committed to assisting our community and partners to help guide conversations with youth and young adults to help them understand and learn to recognize the potential dangers of on-line relationships. Towards that end we have created this animation and companion materials. We hope you find them useful and appreciate you starting the conversation in your community.

Janet's story is one that we all too often hear about from our young students and see in local and national news. They receive a friend request from someone and start an online relationship with them that becomes important to them; like a new best friend. They start becoming isolated from friends and family and keeping secrets until ultimately; they meet up with their new best friend and find out they aren't who they portrayed themselves to be online.

We hope that this video and talking points allows youth to recognize potential dangers, to listen to their instincts while on-line and reach out for help when necessary. Also, for adults to have a growing awareness of the dangers the children face and assist them in starting the dialogue.

For questions or more information, please contact Washington State Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce at: wa.icac@seattle.gov or 206-386-9140.

Janet's Story

In the opening scene we see Janet enter her bedroom and slam the door behind her.

- What do you think is happening here?
- What emotions do you think that Janet is feeling?
- What do you think has happened that is making her feel that way?
 - How would you feel if it happened to you?
 - Who would you want to talk to about it?

Next we see Janet on her bed and she is doing something with her phone.

- What is Janet doing in this scene?
- Why do you think she is taking the picture of herself?
- What did she do with the picture that she took?
- What do you think she expects will happen after she sends the picture?
- Why would she send a picture like that?
 - Would you?
 - Have you ever done something like that?
 - If not a picture what about an email or a text?
 - Do you know anyone who has done something like that?
- Do you think that she has anyone she can talk to about what is going on?
 - Who?
- Do you think that her parents or adult guardian knows what she is doing?
 - If not, why not?
 - If so, do you think that she told them about the picture and the responses?
- Is there anything that she should be concerned about by taking and sending the picture?
 - What are the kinds of apps that you know of that allow you to send images to others, even people that you don't know?
- What emotions do you think that Janet is feeling now?

Janet gets several responses to her posting her picture, she is really interested in Jaydog14.

- Who do you think is responding to Janet?
- Do you think that she knows everyone who is sending her a response?
- What would you do if you got a message from someone that you don't know?
- What do you think Janet is feeling when she gets the message from Jaydog14?
- What information did Janet give Jaydog14?
 - Is there anything wrong with that? Why?
- What emotions do you think Janet is feeling now?

Janet takes the step to allow Jaydog14 to follow her and she follows him.

- Is there anything wrong with Janet doing that?
- Do you think her parents or adult guardian know what is happening?
- Why do you think that Janet would keep that information to herself?

We see Janet in the classroom and she seems preoccupied by something.

- How focused is Janet on what is going on in the classroom?
- Assume that some of Janet's friends are in the same class with her.
 - Do you think that any of them notice something is going on with Janet?
 - Would you notice if one of your friends wasn't their usual self?
 - What should her friends do if they think that something is different with their friend?
 - Would you?
- Who else might be aware that something is different about Janet?
 - What if they aren't because there are so many other kids in the room?
 - Have you ever experienced an event where you weren't sure what was going on with someone you knew but you didn't know quite what to do?
- What emotions do you think that Janet is feeling now?

We see Janet texting in the classroom with Jaydog14.

- What do you think is happening here?
- What is Jaydog14 really doing?
- Do you think that Janet has any idea who Jaydog14 really is?
- Who do you think that Janet believes Jaydog14 is?
 - Why does she think that?

Janet decides to meet Jaydog14 at the Adventure Zone.

- What do you think of that decision?
- It's a public place, does that make a difference?
- Who else might know what Janet is doing?
 - Do you know someone who did something without telling anyone else?
 - Have you?
- Why do you think that Janet decided to meet with Jaydog14?
 - What do you think she was expecting to happen?
 - Why would she think that if she had never met this person before?
 - What emotions do you think she was feeling on her way to the Adventure Zone?
- If you were in the Adventure Zone and you saw a friend arrive that you didn't expect what would you do?
 - What if they told you they were meeting someone else?
 - Has that ever happened to you?
- What do you think happens at the end?

- What could have happened that would have changed the way things turned out?
 - When could that have happened?
 - How do you think Janet would have handled that?
- Who could have been involved that could have helped Janet?
 - Parent/Adult Guardian?
 - Friend(s)
 - Teachers
 - Anyone else?
- What could they have done?

Now that you have seen Janet's story, does this change anything for you?

- What changed?
- Why?

Would you recommend Janet's story to anyone else?

- Who?