



Young Friends

'Spot the signs' instructions



- Use this game as the second of the set or stand-alone of the three appendices. This game will embed the children's learning from the session of all the things that the children have just learnt about. They will talk about and identify different types of scams and the different signs they can look out for to spot a scam victim.
- Separate the class into groups of no more than four children per group and give each group an interactive house print out and pen, if laminated use dry wipe markers.
- Ask the groups to identify the signs of a scam within this house based on what they have learnt so far in the session, allow five minutes. Using the answer sheet work around the groups and ask them to explain one of the highlighted points and the reasons why. Ask for a show of hands to the other groups who have highlighted those scams and get them to tick/mark next to the relevant circle/scam.

Answers:



NATIONAL TRADING STANDARDS
Scams Team

Romance scam: victims may send money to a person who they met online. They may have conducted their relationship entirely by email and phone and have never met the other person.

Self-neglect: scam victims may neglect to look after themselves or their homes properly. This may be due to financial hardship or a lack of time as a result of responding to scams.

Stamps and chequebooks: scam victims may get through more cheque books than normal; they may also buy and use more stamps due to the high number of letters that they are sending when they respond to scams.

Doorstep scams: scam victims may have repeat visits from doorstep criminals carrying out unnecessary or poor quality work for extortionate fees.

Scam mail: scam victims will often receive more mail than usual. The letters will often have foreign post marks as many scams come from abroad.

Isolation: scam victims may respond to scams because they are lonely and experience social isolation. This could be because they are geographically isolated but could also be because their family live far away or because they are living with a physical or mental health issue.

SMS text message: scam victims may receive a suspicious SMS text message or an email requesting that they follow a link or open an attachment.

Financial hardship: scam victims may suffer financial hardship after spending their money (sometimes their entire life savings) on responding to scams. They may stop paying utility bills in order to have more money to spend on scams for extortionate fees.

Telephone scams: scam victims of telephone scams may receive many phone calls a day and make regular payments over the phone. They may feel that the people calling them are friends as the criminals are the only people they have regular contact with.

Lots of low quality products: scam victims may have lots of low quality beauty or food products around the home. They may also have 'free gifts' or 'lucky' objects sent from clairvoyant scams, such as pendants, badges and items that are supposedly for protection.

