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| **Objective:**  To be aware that not everything online is trustworthy. |
| **Activity:**  This activity can be used to highlight to young people that it can be very difficult to tell when someone is being untruthful when you can see and hear them, and so it can be even harder to tell if they are lying when communicating by text, email and instant messages.  Start the session by showing your pupils a clip from the BBC comedy show ‘Would I Lie To You?’ where celebrities have to recount a story/experience in their lives and the other team has to decide if they are telling the truth or making it up: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007r3n8>  NOTE: It is a good idea to watch clips beforehand in order to select one that will be suitable for your pupils, both in terms of language use (e.g. phrases or expressions) and subject (e.g. choosing a topic they might have awareness or knowledge about).  Alternatively you can use the ideas for a ‘Truth or Lies’ game here: <http://www.funenglishgames.com/activities/truthorlies.html>  Before the celebrity reveals if they were telling the truth or lying, pause the clip and ask pupils what they think. Can they back up their opinion in any way? (E.g. it sounded too extreme, the celebrity didn’t tell us many facts, they kept laughing all the time, etc.) Show them the outcome of the clip.  Explain that even when we can see someone (either on screen or face to face) it can be very tricky to tell whether they are being truthful.  Encourage pupils to have a go at playing the game themselves. Help them to think of a statement which they know is not true (e.g. the Earth is flat). Can they say that statement in way that makes it sound more convincing? Is there anything they can do with their body to help convince someone (e.g. nod their head as they speak or make a gesture with their hands to back up their statement?)  Alternatively they could come up with a statement about themselves that isn’t true and see if they can convince others that it is.  Pupils could record their sentences to camera, trying out different expressions, gestures and tones of voice to see how it changes the sentence. Some of these could be played back to the class and they could vote on whether or not they believe the statement is true.  Explain that while it is hard to tell if someone is lying when we can see/hear them, it becomes extremely difficult to tell if they’re lying when all they have sent us is text on a screen (be it email, text messages, post on a social network etc.)  **1**   * Remind pupils that, because there is no certain way of telling if someone is lying online, it is always best to think of online contacts as strangers. * They should not give out personal information about themselves to a stranger and the only people they can trust online are the people that they also know offline (e.g. school friends may be both an online and offline friend). * They should never agree to meet up offline with someone they have only spoken with online. * If they are worried or upset by anything experienced online then they should tell an adult.   Other activities that cover messages around [‘TRUST’](http://www.childnet.com/resources/star-toolkit/trust) and [‘SAFE’](http://www.childnet.com/resources/star-toolkit/safe) can help support this activity. |
| **Key Vocabulary:** |