

Internet Safety Tips

Post near the computer and periodically review with your kids. Educate them to be safe surfers.

Your screen name should not identify you as a boy or girl.

Never post any personal information of yours or anyone else. This includes:

- Your name or other family members' names;
- Your age or birthday;
- Home or email address;
- Phone numbers—home, work, cell;
- Where you live, or even in what part of the country you live;
- Where you go to school;
- Financial Information or Social Security Numbers.

Never upload your picture or those of family or friends.

Never fill out online forms, questionnaires, registrations, profile pages, etc.

No online purchases without permission, even if free.

Never share passwords with anyone except your parents.

Vary your passwords from site to site, especially where banking and credit card information is concerned.

Due to possible viruses, privacy issues, etc do not download and install software without permission. Do not open any emails or attachments from people you do not know. Do not use peer-to-peer networks.



Things are not always what they appear to be. Explain this principle to your children regarding an iceberg and people they may chat or email with online.

- **Never agree to meet in person, someone you have met only online.**
- **Internet privacy is an illusion. Don't post what you don't want the entire world to see.**
- **Be suspicious of "the overly friendly stranger."**
- *****Chat rooms that attract youth also attract predators.*****

If concerned for your child's safety, contact your local Law Enforcement Cyber Crimes Unit, or the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's "Cyber Tip Line", 24/7, online at www.cybertipline.com or by calling 1-800-843-5678.

Cyber Bullying: someone using email, instant messaging, cell phone texting, social networking site postings, digital photos etc., to harass, intimidate, embarrass or even stalk someone.

Don't put up with Cyber Bullying. Never reply to emails or chat sessions containing threatening or vulgar language, sexually explicit speech, or anything that makes you feel uncomfortable in any way - and be sure to tell your parents.

***Mom and dad, if it persists, don't hesitate to report it. Be sure to save the emails, IM's, and chat sessions for law enforcement. Delete all current accounts and create new ones.

If anyone you met online sends you anything through the mail, before opening it, tell your parents.

When using Social Networking sites only accept online invitations from friends you know in **real life** and be sure to restrict access and set profile to private, but remember, your friends, who don't use privacy settings, may allow your info to be seen by all.

Share your online experiences with mom and dad to help them better understand computers, Social Networking Sites and the Internet.

Think B4 you post. Always use proper netiquette and be a good online citizen.

When online, people may not be who they say they are.