

LEARN THE BASICS OF INTERNET SAFETY.

INTERNET SAFETY:

Children use a variety of online services, and each of these services can have different safety concerns. However, there are some basic tips which you can employ no matter how your children use the Internet.

Tips	Discussion Starters
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep the computer in a high-traffic area of your home.• Establish limits for which online sites children may visit and for how long.• Remember that Internet technology can be mobile, so make sure to monitor cell phones, gaming devices, and laptops.• Surf the Internet with your children and let them show you what they like to do online.• Know who is connecting with your children online and set rules for social networking, instant messaging, e-mailing, online gaming, and using webcams.• Continually dialogue with your children about online safety.• Have a written list of passwords and login information for your children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are your favorite things to do online?• What is personal information? Why should you keep it private?• What could you do to be safer online?• What would you do if anyone online asked to meet you face-to-face?• Besides me, who do you feel that you can talk to if you are in a scary or uncomfortable situation?

CYBER BULLYING:

Tips	Discussion Starters
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tell your child not to respond to rude e-mails, messages, and comments.• Save the evidence, such as e-mail and text messages, and take screenshots of comments and images. Also, take note of the date and time when the harassment occurs.• If harassment is via e-mail, social networking sites, IM, and chat rooms, instruct your child to “block” bullies or delete your child’s current account and open a new one.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why do you think people cyberbully?• How does your school deal with cyberbullying?• Have you ever sent a mean message because you were upset?• What would you do if someone created a mean, fake profile for you or one of your friends?• How can you stop yourself from being cyberbullied?• Who would you talk to if it happened to you?

--	--

SEXTING:

Tips	Discussion Starters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Before buying your child a cell phone, set rules for its use, including what sort of information and images are appropriate to share via text. · Know what safeguards are available on your child’s phone, such as turning off and/or blocking texting and picture features. · Talk to your child about the possible social, academic, and legal consequences of sexting. They could face humiliation, lose educational opportunities, and get in trouble with the law. · Remind your child that they can talk to you if they receive a nude picture on their cell phone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Have you ever received a sexual message or naked picture on your cell phone? · Has anyone ever asked or pressured you to send a nude or sexual picture? · Do you think it’s OK to send “sexy” images? Why? · What could happen to you if you send or forward a naked picture? · How likely is it that images and messages intended for one person will be seen by others?