

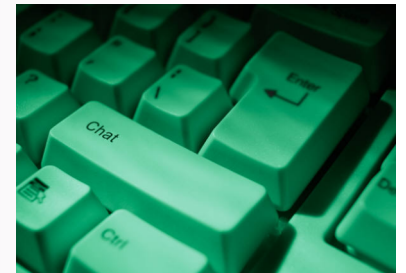


Child Rescue Network

Internet Safety Tips

There are over two billion people online today! So here is the question... Would you allow your child to roam around a city of two billion people unsupervised? Of course not, however if your child has unrestricted and unmonitored access to the Internet, guess what? That is exactly what is happening!

At any given moment there are an estimated 50,000 predators online looking for potential victims. 1 in 5 teens has reported that they have been sexually solicited while online. Computers are not baby sitters and nothing can replace a parent's supervision and active participation when it comes to keeping their children safe.



Here are some safety tips to help keep your child's online experience safer:

Do not allow your child to have a computer with Internet access in their bedroom or any area that is private. Move it into the family room or someplace where you can easily see the activity.

Set time restraints. Do not allow your child to spend hour after hour online.

Check history and consider installing tracking software as well as parental controls. If your child is "wiping" the history every time, then you should find out why.

Spend time with your child online. This does so many things including giving you quality time with your child. Explore together!

Teach your kids that when they come across any material that makes them feel uncomfortable, scared, or confused to immediately tell you or another trusted adult.

Teach your kids to never open emails from people they do not know in person.

Teach kids to never reveal any personal information and to immediately tell you or a trusted adult if someone ever makes them feel uncomfortable or starts communicating in a sexually explicit manner.

On social networks like Facebook, make sure the privacy settings are on to limit contact to only those on your child's "friends" list and those should be people the child actually knows in person.

Make sure your child understands that anything that gets posted online will always be out there and can NEVER be completely deleted. A suggestive picture to a boyfriend could end up anywhere and everywhere. All pictures should be cleared by you before posting.

Make sure your child understands that he or she should, under no circumstances, ever meet in person someone they met online without you being present.

More safety tips are available on our website at www.ChildRescueNetwork.org.