

Teacher Discussion

Learn the basics of 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.

- Monitor student activity. Be aware at all times
- Demonstrate safe effective internet searches
- Continually dialog with your students about online safety.

Start a discussion with your students

Use these discussion starters to get an Internet safety conversation going with your children. The more often you talk to them about online safety, the easier it will get, so don't get discouraged if they don't respond immediately!

- Can I take a look at what you have been posting online?
- Does anyone else have access to your passwords?
- What information is okay to share online? What information should you keep private?
- What could someone learn about you from what you post online? How might they use this information?
- Have you ever regretted anything you posted online?

Internet Safety - discussion

- 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?

Blogs

Blogs are a type of online journal that children use to share their thoughts and feelings; they may be in written or video format. Posting blogs allows children to develop both their technical and creative skills. It also lets them connect to other users with similar interests and write about their experiences, their personal lives, popular culture, and any other topic that crosses their minds

Start a discussion with your students

Use these discussion starters to get an Internet safety conversation going with your children. The more often you talk to them about online safety, the easier it will get, so don't get discouraged if they don't respond immediately!

- Do you keep a blog? Could I read it? Who do you think is reading your blog?
- Would you feel comfortable letting anyone read your blog?
- Is your blog set to private? Why or why not?
- What do you think your blog says about you?
- Can you show me some of your favorite blogs?

Identity Theft

Millions of Americans use the Internet to make their lives more convenient by shopping and banking online. Unfortunately, the personal information that they share—anything from credit card to Social Security numbers—may expose them to identity theft.

Start a discussion with your students

- What do you consider your personal information?
- Why is it important to keep personal information private?
- What are some scams that you may have come across online?
- Have you ever clicked on pop-ups? Do you think that they will give you what they promise?
- How often do you change your passwords? How can you tell if a website is secure?

Revealing too much information

Web 2.0 lets users share information online as easily as they download it. Unfortunately, people of all ages often reveal too much. Children can be made especially vulnerable by sharing personal information, such as home addresses and phone numbers, private thoughts and feelings, and pictures. In order to keep your children from posting information and images they may end up regretting, remind them who may see the information they reveal while online.

Start a discussion with your students

Use these discussion starters to get an Internet safety conversation going with your students. The more often you talk to them about online safety, the easier it will get, so don't get discouraged if they don't respond immediately!

- Can I take a look at what you have been posting online?
- Does anyone else have access to your passwords?
- What information is okay to share online? What information should you keep private?
- What could someone learn about you from what you post online? How might they use this information?
- Have you ever regretted anything you posted online?