Internet Safety

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How do we connect?

- Cell phones/Smartphones

- Tablets

- Computers and laptops with Internet access

- Gaming consoles with Internet access

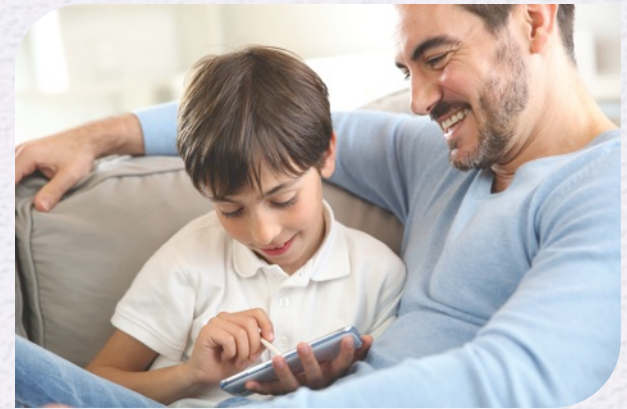- iPods, iPads, other mobile devices

Rules for the Internet

- Never tell anyone your password
- Never give personal information such as: your name, address, phone number, photo, school, e-mail, or age to anyone on the Internet
- Use only with adult supervision
- Never plan to meet anyone in person who you meet on-line
- If you feel uncomfortable about anything that happens on-line, tell an adult or turn off the computer
- Use only appropriate language
- Visit only appropriate web sites
- Do not click on Pop-Ups or go to chat rooms
- Stand up for others—don't tolerate bullying
- **Do not open e-mails or answer phone calls or texts from unknown people!!!!!!**

A GOOD RULE :

Never write anything or say anything to a person using the computer/phone that you would not want your parents and teachers to see or hear.

What Is a Good Digital Citizen?

- Behaving online as you would in person

- Being respectful of others

- Telling an adult when you see dangerous or unkind online behavior

- Leaving a positive digital footprint

- Knowing how to avoid cybercriminals

- Protecting personal information and maintaining online privacy

App Age Ratings

Why is 13 the magic number?

It's due to a FTC ruling called the **Children's Online Privacy and Protection Act (COPPA)**. When a company creates a website or app specifically for children 13 and younger, they are bound by the COPPA rules. One provision is a requirement to obtain parental approval before a child can create an account. Companies don't want to go through the trouble, so will simply have terms that state "not designed for users under 13 years of age". That's why many popular apps like Instagram, Vine, Snapchat, even Facebook, have 13 as the cut-off. And sites like Webkinz, Moshi Monsters, and Disney which are clearly intended for children do require that you as a parent okay the account.

Restricting Apps

 You can adjust App Rating restrictions (at least for iPod, iPad and iPhone users) to prevent the download of adult-oriented apps rated 17+. Once set up your child will not be able to download apps over the allowed app rating, the options will be greyed out.

Settings ➜ General ➜ Restrictions ➜ Put in your code ➜ Apps ➜ Click on ages

Social Networking

Instagram   **Facebook**

- Users create "profiles"

- Kids can communicate with friends and family, organize group activities, showcase their creative work, or raise awareness or money for something they believe in

- Anything they post, even behind privacy settings, can be shared by people they allow to see it

- They can view content and postings by people they may not know

Twitter   **Google +**

Photo and Video Sharing

- Popular video-sharing sites and tools: YouTube, Vimeo, Vine, Snapchat

- Popular photo-sharing apps:
  Instagram, Snapchat

- Users view and post videos and photos or send them to friends

- They post and read comments about the content

- Beware of sending inappropriate images/videos and identifying information in the videos

- Some students have been making unkind comments on other students' videos

Video Apps for Kids

- PBS kids shows 1-5 minute clips from PBS shows

- Nick Jr. lets kids stream Nick Jr. shows

- YouTube Kids lets kids watch mostly appropriate videos. Some inappropriate ones get through. Parents can set time limits. Has lots of ads. Does not have comments. Does not collect personal info.

Beware:
Secret Photo Apps

- There are apps available to hide photos from other people:

- KYMS: the app's icon is disguised as a calculator:

- Best Secret Folder: The icon is disguised as "My Utilities,"

- Gallery Lock Lite: lets you put the app icon in "Stealth Mode," so it doesn't appear on your phone.

Sexting

Laws Pertaining to Sexting in the State of New York:

Anyone who creates, distributes or possesses an image of a minor engaged in a sexually explicit act may be prosecuted under the State of New York's child pornography laws and if convicted, will generally need to register as a sex offender. In June of 2011, legislators proposed a new law that would address teenage sexting. In general, the law would allow first time offenders to avoid jail time and there would not be a requirement to register as a sex offender.

Sobering reality:
- Charged with a felony crime.
- Up to 15 years in jail.
- Register as a sex offender.

Kik

Kik is a free texting app available for iPhones, Android, Windows, and Blackberry phones. Remember, you don't need a phone to use iPhone apps; if your child has an iPod touch or an iPad, they can install iPhone apps.

Problem: It is known to preserve users' anonymity. It allows users to register allowing users to register without providing any information other than a username. It's clear that some people blatantly use Kik to send and receive nude pictures.

Vine   ask.fm

- Vine is a video creation app where all the videos are 6 seconds or less. The videos or "vines" as they are called play in an endless loop. The videos are shared with other Vine users who you follow and can be shared on Facebook or Twitter.

- Ask.fm allows users to ask and answer anonymous questions. These can be inappropriate and lead to cyberbullying.

Parents should:

- Keep your computer in a common area

- Internet use should be supervised

- Create your own accounts to "Friend" and "Follow" your child

- Learn the privacy settings, and show your child how they work

- Know your child's passwords

- Restrict downloading of apps

- Don't put your OoVoo ID or Instagram name or Kik name or Ask.fm link or e-mail address or phone number on the Internet where anyone can get to it!
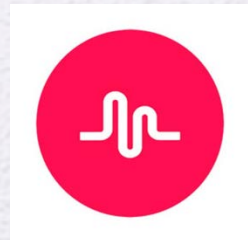
Cell Phones:

- Many Harbor Hill 4th and 5th graders have cell phones as well as some 3rd graders

- Students are receiving prank calls which are hurtful

- Students have received close to 1,000 texts in a short time frame

- Students have in the past received chain emails which frighten them

- Students have been posting comments that are not nice on Instagram in "Quiz your Friends"

- Students are talking about being invited to parties in large group texts in which some of the students are not invited

- Playdates are all about texting other students on their phones

Musical.ly

- Musical.ly is a popular app for creating 15-second music videos.

- kids select snippets of popular songs and record themselves singing, lip-syncing or dancing

- Kids can share their videos anywhere

- The song choices are popular dance songs and some have swearing and questionable lyrics

- Even with a private account, their profile is still public. Others can search for their account and see their profile photo, username and short bio.

- Kids can search Hashtags in their private account and see nudity and bad language

- They can talk to others in the App and develop relationships with them. They assume the video is the actual person which it may or may not be.

Cyberbullying

- Using online technology to repeatedly act cruelly to someone

- Posting or forwarding a private text or embarrassing image to others

- Tricking someone into revealing embarrassing information and forwarding it to others

- Spreading malicious rumors

- Stealing passwords

- Often accompanies offline interactions

What scares your kids:

- Angela's Eyes: Angela's ability to text-chat with users – is turned off when Child Mode is toggled on. If you've read about Angela asking kids for their names, ages or engaging in banter about clothes-swapping parties, none of this can happen if Child Mode is on.

- There's a musical-note button which launches the YouTube app with the official Talking Tom and Friends channel and children have access to comments with profanity

- If not in child mode your child will be asked inappropriate questions

Carmen Winstead

- **The story of a 17-year-old girl allegedly pushed down a sewer and killed by a gang of bullies from her school. Her ghost has returned to wreak revenge on those who do not share it.**

- **Your children are receiving this and are very frightened. They are passing it on to the same people over and over again. Some of them are having nightmares. They are receiving it hundreds of times with pictures.**

Resources & Websites for Parents

- www.Bewebsmart.com: Parental Control resources and guidance for parents who want to keep their families safe and productive on computers, iPod touch, iPad and other devices.

- www.NoBullying.com: Cyber Bullying Advice, Quotes & Statistics. Bullying Prevention Guides & Articles on CyberBullying, School Bullying

- www.OnGuardOnline.gov
Provides tips from the federal government and the tech industry to help you be on guard against Internet fraud, secure your computer, and protect your kids online

- www.connectsafely.org/guides: Offers online parents' guides to various social networking sites, including Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Google+.

- www.allsafesites.com: A child-safe Internet search engine.

- www.commonsensemedia.org
Reviews and rates websites and other media for children according to age-appropriateness.

- www.trendmicro.com/internetsafety: Lots of information on Internet safety for families.