Parent-to-Parent
Internet Safety

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Goals for Today

- Understand what our children are doing online
- Keep our children safe when they are online
- How to teach our children to make smart choices when they are online
- Provide tools you can use at home
Things To Think About

- Has anyone here ever had this happen to you:
  - You walk into the room where your child is on the computer, and immediately he X’s out of whatever it is he’s been doing? Do any of you have any ideas what your child might be doing when he X’s out?

- Thinking back to when you were a teenager, did you ever do the equivalent of Xing out of a screen?
Things To Think About

- How many use parental controls on your Web browser? How many have installed special monitoring and filtering software to keep your child from viewing unwanted content?

- How many of you have a child with an email address? How many have a child with an instant messaging account? What about a cell phone? Or a smart phone? How do you communicate with your child?

- Of those whose children have a smart phone, do you ever check their phones to see what apps they’ve downloaded? Have you set parental controls on their phones?
How Do Kids Get Online?

- Mobile Devices
  - Cell Phones
  - PDA’s
  - iPhones, iTouch, iPad
- Laptops, netbooks, computers
- Video game consoles
How Is The Internet Used

- Homework
- Shopping
- Research
- Sharing photos
- *Talking to friends*
- Downloading music/videos/files
- Playing games
- Virtual worlds
- *Social web sites*
Facebook Video
Social Web Sites

- Facebook
  - www.facebook.com

- MySpace
  - www.myspace.com

- Twitter
  - www.twitter.com

- Formspring
  - www.formspring.me
Video Social Web Sites

- Youtube
  - www.youtube.com

- Vimeo
  - www.vimeo.com

- Chat Roulette
  - www.chatroulette.com
Concerns

- Cyberbullying
- “Disturbing” content
- Viruses, Spyware, Trojans
- Sexual predators
- Identity thieves
Statistics

- 28% of online teens say they use code words on a daily basis to hide online conversations from their parents (Teen Research Unlimited, "Topline Findings from Omnibuzz Research." October 2005.)

- More than one fourth (27%) of teens report that they have talked online about sex with someone they have never met in person (Teen Research Unlimited, "Topline Findings from Omnibuzz Research." October 2005).

- 81% of parents of online teens say that teens aren't careful enough when giving out information about themselves online and 79% of online teens agree with this (Pew Internet and American Life Project, "Protecting Teens Online". March 17, 2005).

- 65% of all parents and 64% of all teens say that teens do things online that they wouldn't want their parents to know about (Pew Internet and American Life Project, "Protecting Teens Online." March 17, 2005).

- 75% of teens use Instant Messaging compared to 42% of adults (Pew Internet and American Life Project, "Teens and Technology." July 27, 2005).
Statistics


Questions For You

- How many computers are there in your home, and where are they?
- Do you supervise your child while online?
- Do they have a social media site – Facebook, MySpace, Friendster, twitter, etc.?
- Do they have a private email account? Hotmail, Google, yahoo, etc.
- Does your computer or their cell phone have a camera?
Parents often set curfews and have rules about visiting a friend’s house without an adult present.

You may want to consider similar rules for Internet use in your home. Basic family rules are an excellent starting point for establishing Internet Safety guidelines.
Things You Can Do

- Talk to your child about Internet Safety.
- Pay attention to your child’s computer use.
- Read more about Internet Safety.
- Join the fun of using the computer for learning.
- Use available technology with your child.
- Do a little sleuthing—check the Internet History.
- Watch for warning signals in the behavior of your child.
- Know when to say “no”
Things You Can Do

- Sign an “Internet Safety Contract.”
- Keep the computer in a public area of your home.
- Set a time limit for computer use.
- Become familiar with the sites your child visits.
- Know your child’s online “friends.”
- Know your child’s passwords.
- Keep your security software up to date.
Parental Controls – Windows 7
Things Not To Do

- Do not include personal information such as:
  - Name
  - Daily or weekly schedule
  - Address
  - Age
  - Birthday
  - School
  - Location
  - Phone Number

- Photos and videos should never be posted online.
Too Much Information

Securing Your Web World
Actions To Take When:

- Parents of children approached online should:
  - Notify local law enforcement and/or **FBI Tipline** at 1-800-843-5678

- Parents of children who are cyberbullied should:
  - If school related, notify school officials
  - If not school related, notify local law enforcement
  - Save the message for evidence
  - Set up a new account
Sample Internet Safety Contract

- I, ______________________________, promise to obey all house rules for Internet use.
- • I will not break the rules about how long I may use the Internet and which websites I may visit.
- • I will never give out my name, address, telephone number, or the name or location of my school.
- If someone asks me for this information, I will tell my parents or another trusted adult.
- • I will not respond to any message that makes me feel uncomfortable or angry.
- • I will tell my parents or another trusted adult if someone online asks to meet me in person.
- • I will turn off the monitor right away if I see something that scares me or makes me feel uncomfortable.
- I will tell my parents or another trusted adult right away.
- • I will treat other people online respectfully. I will not use mean words or pick fights.
- • If anybody is mean to me online or makes me feel hurt, I will tell my parents or another trusted adult right away.
- • I will not click on pop-up ads or emails from people I don’t know. I will not download anything from websites that I don’t know and trust.
- • I will teach my parents how to use my favorite sites so we can learn new things and have fun together.

Child’s signature ________________________________ Date __________________
Parent/Guardian’s signature ______________________________ Date __________________
Useful Web Sites for Kids

- **AllSafeSites**
  - www.allsafesites.com
  - A child-safe Internet search engine.

- **American Library Association’s Great Websites for Kids**
  - www.ala.org/greatsites
  - A comprehensive list by subject area of child-safe websites.

- **KidsClick!**
  - www.kidsclick.org
  - This site, owned and run by the School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University, was created by librarians to offer children a safe way to search for information online.

- **OneKey**
  - www.onekey.com
  - An Internet search engine that filters out pornography and explicit sexual content from results.
Parent Resources

- **Netsmartz Workshop for Parents & Guardians**
  - http://www.netsmartz.org/netparents.htm

- **Netsmartz Workshop 411**
  - http://www.netsmartz411.org/

- **FBI Parents Guide to Internet Safety**

- **Online Safety Guidelines**
  - http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/
Parent Resources

- **Chat Abbreviations**
  - The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children’s comprehensive list of common online abbreviations and acronyms

- **Common Sense Media**
  - [www.commonsensemedia.org](http://www.commonsensemedia.org)
  - This site reviews websites and other media for children and rates them according to their age-appropriateness.

- **ConnectSafely**
  - [www.connectsafely.org](http://www.connectsafely.org)
  - This site has tips, advice, the latest news, and blogs about the online world and its effect on children and teenagers.

- **CyberTipline**
  - [www.missingkids.com/cybertip](http://www.missingkids.com/cybertip)
  - Make a report of online sexual exploitation through this service of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.
Parent Resources

- **GetNetWise**
  - www.getnetwise.org
  - This site offers a number of helpful resources, including a comparison of filtering tools and social networking site tutorials.

- **NetFamilyNews**
  - www.netfamilynews.org
  - The “community newspaper” for Internet safety. The site features news and information about online safety and privacy, new Web resources for children, research about how kids use the Internet, and more.

- **NetSmartz**
  - www.netsmartz.org
  - Information, tools, and tips about online safety for parents, children, teenagers, law enforcement, and educators.

- **SafetyClicks**
  - www.safetyclicks.com
  - Tips, information, and articles for parents and children.
Parent Resources

- **Web Wise Kids**
  - [www.webwisekids.org](http://www.webwisekids.org)
  - Interactive resources for parents, teachers, and teens on Internet safety.
  - Some materials come with a suggested donation.

- **What They Play**
  - [www.whattheyplay.com](http://www.whattheyplay.com)
  - A family guide to Internet games. The site includes information, guides, ratings, and the latest news about video games.