

What are the signs of malicious activity?

Your child may be engaging in unsafe practices online if:

- ◆ They spend large amounts of time online, especially at night.
- ◆ You find pornography on their computer.
- ◆ They receive phone calls from people you do not know.
- ◆ They are making calls, sometimes long distance, to people you do not recognize.
- ◆ They receive gifts, mail, or packages from someone that you do not know.
- ◆ They quickly turn off the computer monitor or change the screen when you walk into the room.
- ◆ They become withdrawn from the family.

What can you do to help?

- ◆ Review the history on the computer.
- ◆ Use caller ID services to determine who is calling your child.
- ◆ Monitor your child's mobile devices and emails.

Immediately contact local authorities if:

- ◆ Anyone in the household has received child pornography.
- ◆ Your child has received sexually explicit images or been sexually solicited by someone who knows that they are under 18.

For further information, please visit:

FBI Parent Guide to Internet Safety

www.fbi.gov

www.getnetwise.org

www.safekids.com

www.netparents.org

www.ctparenting.com



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A Guide To Internet Safety For You And Your Child



What is internet safety?

- ◆ Internet safety is the maximizing of resources to ensure that internet users are not taken advantage of while online.
- ◆ Internet safety can be achieved by using technological protections, such as security programs.
- ◆ Internet safety also includes user awareness such as taking proactive steps to prevent malicious activity.

At any given time, there are about 50,000 predators online.

1 in 5 teens reports being sexually solicited while online.

3/4 of all kids have access to mobile devices, and thus the internet, at home.

How can kids stay safe while using the internet?

- ◆ Do not open messages from people whom you do not know.
- ◆ Make sure that when on social networking websites, like Facebook, you ensure that your settings are such that only you or your friends can see the content.
- ◆ Only accept friends on social networking sites who you have actually met in person.
- ◆ Report anything that makes you feel uncomfortable to a trusted adult.
- ◆ Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you met online.
- ◆ Never upload (post) pictures of yourself onto the Internet or online service to people you do not personally know.
- ◆ Never give out identifying information such as your name, home address, school name, social security or telephone number.
- ◆ Never download pictures from an unknown source, as there is a good chance there could be sexually explicit images.
- ◆ Never respond to messages or bulletin board postings that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or harassing.
- ◆ Understand that not everything you read online is true.

How can parents help their kids practice safe habits on the internet?

- ◆ Do not allow your child to have a computer with internet access in their bedroom or any area that is private. Instead, place a computer with online access in a public space, such as the family room.
- ◆ Set time limits for time spent on the computer.
- ◆ Install protections on your computer that block pop-ups and scan the computer for viruses daily.
- ◆ Check the history of computer searches, ensuring that the history is not being wiped after each usage.
- ◆ Spend time with your child online together!
- ◆ Teach your children to never open emails from people that they do not know.
- ◆ Ensure that your child understands to report anything that makes them feel uncomfortable or scared online to a trusted adult.

