How to Guide: Kids Internet Safety

The internet can be a great learning tool for children when used properly. It is important for parents and caregivers to remain engaged in their children's internet use for a safe experience.

What are the ways the internet can be used safely?
- Educational games.
- Homework/schoolwork.
- Exploring new things.
- Teaching and alternate forms of learning (homeschooling).
- Communicating with parents when away from home.
- Connecting with friends online.

What are the internet dangers for children?
- Websites with content not appropriate for kids.
- Cyberbullying.
- Malware on devices that are harmful or not appropriate for kids.
- Frauds and scams aimed at children.
- Sexting and harassment.

What is the best way to set boundaries and safety rules?
- Create an online safety contract with your children of what to do and not do on the internet.
- Establish timeframes when your children can use the internet.
- Keep children's internet usage in sight.
- Set ground rules with your children regarding internet use.

What are sample ground rules?
- Don't text with strangers.
- Don't share personal information (your name, address, SSN, phone #).
- Don't open an email from someone you do not know.
- If the message is hurtful or harassing, don't respond!
- If you feel uncomfortable with something online, tell a parent/caregiver.

How do we practice safe internet practices with children?
- Make computer time a part of family time.
- Set an example of safe use for your kids.
- Be clear that you will monitor browser history and know passwords.
- Set up password protection on the device.
- Update devices regularly.

How to Guide: Zoom Host Basics

What are the steps for internet safety?

- Keep the computer for children's access in an area where parents can monitor activity.
- Install parental control software.
- Use security software to protect against viruses.
- Notice any changes in behavior for signs of cyberbullying or harassment.
- Take action with your child and support him/her if you see harmful action.

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