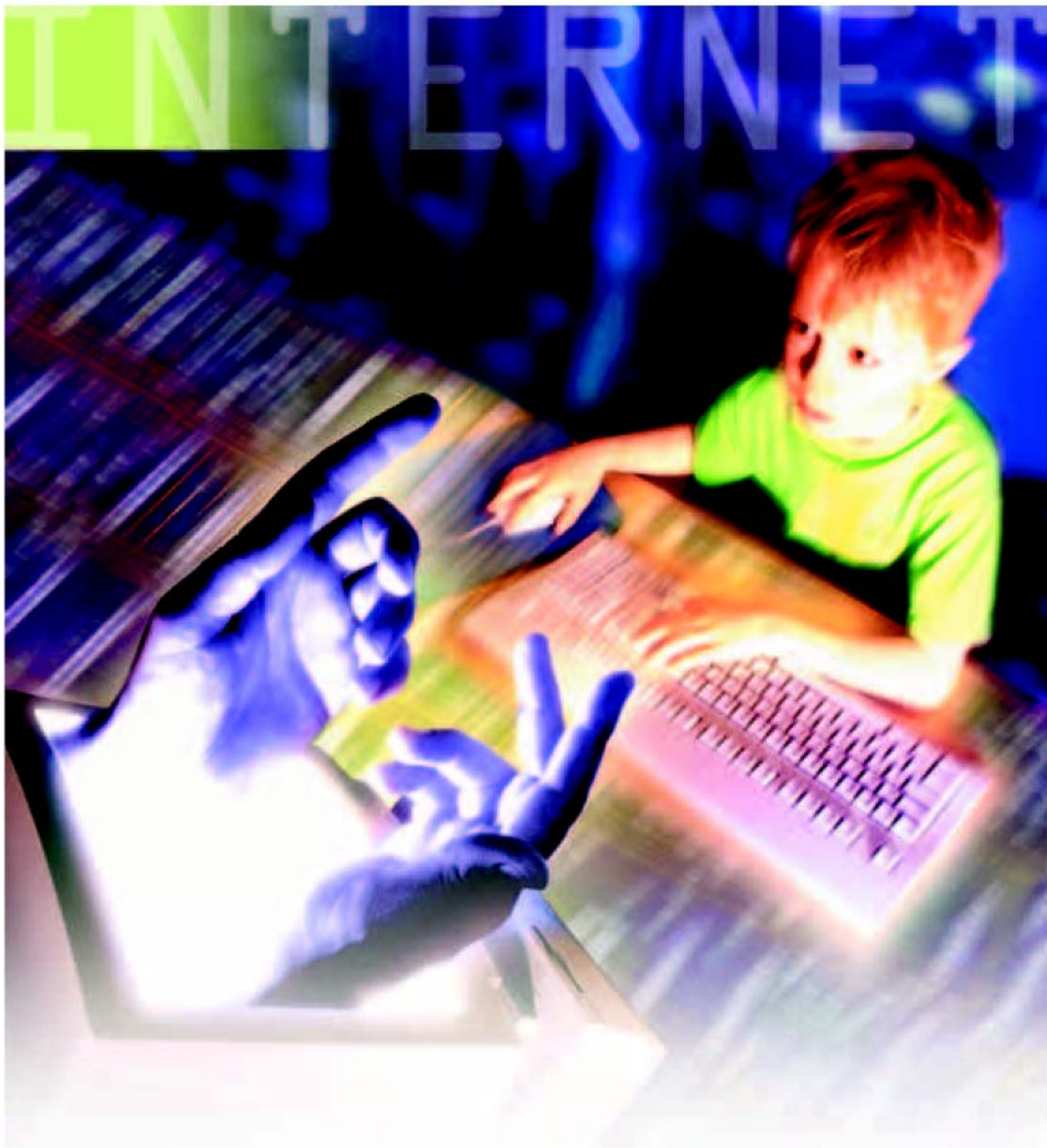


# Guidelines and Resources for Parents



## Introduction

Few would argue that the Internet has had a profound influence on education, including an unprecedented access to resources, opportunities for collaboration across geographic and temporal barriers, and engagement in global communities. Current research suggests this impact may extend to student academic achievement. In a recent study of low-income students, Linda Jackson and her colleagues at Michigan State University found that increased Internet use correlates with higher standardized<sup>1</sup> reading-achievement scores and grade-point averages.

The high-speed Internet has made the Web much more interactive, with communication possibilities expanded beyond the written word. While young people tend to adopt new technologies more quickly than adults, many do not have the experience or knowledge to understand the potential risks. Parents, educators, and community members must encourage students to take advantage of the Internet's benefits while reducing its risks.

All Virginia school divisions including Radford City Schools have Internet acceptable use policies and employ filtering software (Appendix A). These policies and filters are necessary but cannot prevent all risks to students. Since Internet threats change constantly, schools and divisions must take additional steps to safeguard students.

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<sup>1</sup> L. A. Jackson, A. von Eye, F. A. Biocca, G. Barbatsis, Y. Zhao, and H. E. Fitzgerald, "Does home Internet use influence the academic performance of low-income children?" *Developmental Psychology*, 42(3):1-7 (2006).

## Issues School Divisions Must Address

As stated in the 2006 legislation, each Virginia school division must add a comprehensive Internet safety component to its acceptable use policy (Appendix A). The division should review its existing acceptable use policy carefully to determine if the Internet safety component will affect other sections. The division then will draft and submit the revised policy to the state Department of Education, which will review the program for compliance.

Although the various Internet safety programs across the state will share some common elements, each division should examine its resources and requirements closely and fashion an appropriate plan that includes the following:

- Integration of Internet safety into the K-12 curriculum and instruction
- Defined roles and responsibilities for the school board; administrators (central office and building); teachers; counselors; instructional technology resource teachers; library media specialists; building resource officers; technology coordinators; students; and community stakeholders, including but not limited to parents, caregivers, public library staff, after-school and off-campus program instructors, and local law enforcement officials
- Safety measures, including any that already exist
- Data and network security plan
- Procedures to address breaches of Internet security and protect students' safety
- Process for annually reviewing, evaluating, and revising the program
- Professional development opportunities for staff across the division
- Outreach programs for community stakeholders

In revising acceptable use policies, divisions will confront three major issues regarding appropriate and effective Internet use—safety, security, and ethics. Since the existing policies already address Internet ethics, the guidelines in this document focus primarily on safety and security topics.

- **The Internet as a valuable tool.** Like any other tool, the Internet can be misused or dangerous in certain circumstances. Students must learn how to use the Internet safely and effectively.

- **Personal safety on the Internet.** Students must understand that people are not always who they say they are. They should never give out personal information without an adult's permission, especially if it conveys where they can be found at a particular time. They should understand that predators are always present on the Internet. Students should recognize the various forms of *cyberbullying* and know what steps to take if confronted with that behavior.
- **Information on the Internet.** Students and their families should discuss how to identify acceptable sites to visit and what to do if an inappropriate site is accessed. Students should be informed about various Web advertising techniques and realize that not all sites provide truthful information.

**Activities on the Internet.** Likewise, students and their families should discuss acceptable *social networking* and communication methods and the appropriate steps to take when encountering a problem. Students should know the potential dangers of emailing, gaming, downloading files, and *peer-to-peer computing* (e.g., *viruses*, legal issues, harassment, sexual predators, *identity theft*).

Each school division should outline options for presenting Internet safety instruction to students. A pilot of the instruction program, coupled with a review of related materials, is recommended prior to division wide implementation. The division needs to develop an evaluation component that continually examines the program's effectiveness and recommends revisions.

A frequently overlooked element is school and community support for the acceptable use policy. All stakeholders—division staff and community members—need accurate upto-date facts. This document is organized by stakeholder group to help divisions define each role clearly.

In addition, all school personnel should keep abreast of constantly changing Internet safety information and communicate regularly on the topic. Some Internet threats, such as bullies and sexual predators, exist in the community as well. As a result, administrators, counselors, and resource officers previously have confronted some of the problems now emerging on the Internet. Division and school personnel also should tap into community resources, such as law enforcement agencies and technology companies that can lend their own expertise.

While devising the revised policy, remember that students may not recognize virtual-life safety issues as readily as real-life safety issues. Virtual-life risks often are invisible, unsolicited, and instant. The division should educate students to recognize potential illegal activities and outline a clear process for reporting problems.

# What Parents, Grandparents, and Caregivers Need to Know

*The Internet is a valuable learning, communication, and entertainment provider. A child's Internet use should be based on age and the family's needs and values*

- The Internet can help with research and homework.
- The Internet can facilitate easy communications with family members and friends.
- Although the Internet can be educational and entertaining, children should spend time offline.
- Appropriate Internet activities for children should be age related. Teenage activities may not be appropriate for a young child.

**Online Safety Guide (click on age-level tips on left side of screen) (GetNetWise)**

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/>

**Parenting Online (WiredKids) <http://wiredkids.org/resources/documents/pdf/parentingonline.pdf>**

<http://www.wiredsafety.org/parent.html>

**Online Predators: What You Can Do to Minimize the Risk (Microsoft)**

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/children/kidpred.msp>

- The Internet contains inappropriate information for children, such as pornography, hate literature, aggressive advertising, and violent images.
- Internet communication often is anonymous, especially in *chat rooms* or *blogs*. A sexual predator may pose as a friend to lure a child away from his or her family's protection. *Cyberbullies* may target a child for harassment.
- Using e-mail or downloading files can lead to *viruses* or hidden *spyware*, which endanger a family's privacy and computer.
- Information provided over the Internet—by children and adults—can be used for *identity theft*.

*Parents can provide the best protection for their children and help reinforce the principles learned in the classroom. Families should reach agreements about acceptable Internet activity and content.*

- Parents should read about and know how to respond to Internet risks. They can stay informed by signing up for a family Internet safety newsletter (see “Newsletters” in Appendix D) and working directly with their school divisions.
- Parents should talk with their children about safe and appropriate Web sites and activities.

**The Children’s Partnership: The Parents’ Guide to the Information SuperHighway** [http://www.childrenspartnership.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Speeches and Presentations&CONTENTID=4687&TEMPLATE=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm](http://www.childrenspartnership.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Speeches%20and%20Presentations&CONTENTID=4687&TEMPLATE=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm)

**staysafe.org for Parents** <http://www.msn.staysafeonline.com/parents/default.html>

- Children should be encouraged to report anything they feel uneasy about. If parents overreact, children will be less likely to confide in them the next time.
- The family should create rules about what children can and cannot do while online. Posting the agreements near the computer will ensure children see them often.

*Monitoring is crucial. Parents should know where their children go online, how long they stay there, and the warning signs that something is wrong.*

- Parents should place computers in family areas as opposed to bedrooms; however, they need to realize that *instant messaging* devices, cell phones, and *wireless computers* may allow children to get online anywhere.
- When young children first begin going online, parents should work closely with them and talk about Internet safety at an early age.
- Parents should *bookmark* suitable sites and check back regularly to ensure that the content of those sites has not changed and that harmful sites have not been bookmarked.
- *Filters* are helpful but not fail proof. Parents need to know about *circumventor sites*, which allow users to get around *filtering* software controls. Parents should seek training to learn different methods of *monitoring* their children’s Internet use. They continually need to employ up-to-date techniques and software to track where their children go online.
- Parents should be aware that some sites have age restrictions that children may ignore or not realize.

- Parents should follow where their children go on the Internet just as they would watch them in a large public area. They need to check regularly the *history* and *bookmarks* or *favorites* on all computers in the house.
- **Cyberline (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children)**  
<http://www.cyberline.com/>

**Filter Review (National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families)**  
<http://www.filterreview.com/index.htm>

- Parents should recognize the warning signs of when a child might be in trouble, doing something they should not be doing, or spending too much time on the Internet. They should know how to report a problem to their Internet Service Provider and local law enforcement officials.
- Some Internet activities are not only dangerous but illegal. Parents should be aware of relevant laws.

**See Appendix B for additional resources**

## Appendix A

### Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and Computing Rules Radford City Schools

1. Users must not attempt to penetrate any school computing system security or the security system of off-campus organizations.
2. Users must not intentionally locate, write, send, or store material that is lewd, obscene, or pornographic.
3. Users must abide by system regulations posted in the computer laboratories and by any other rules established by faculty in regard to computer use.
4. The user is responsible for all activity that occurs under his or her account. Passwords must not be shared.
5. The user must abide by all copyright laws applicable to software, Internet materials, and other resources.
6. Radford City Schools' computing facilities may not be used for any commercial or business activity unless expressly authorized in writing by the school administration.
7. Users must not intentionally cause the computer or system to behave atypically.
8. Users may not intentionally gain unlawful access to others' files, programs, or accounts.
9. Users must use appropriate, inoffensive language in all electronic communications.
10. Users must not place unlawful information on the Internet nor use the Internet in any unlawful manner.

There are times when school personnel may need to examine files and actual or logged network sessions of a computer user. These times, though infrequent, are necessary for the reasonable and proper administration of school computing resources. At such times, school personnel are investigating violations or possible violations of security and /or rules and interactions that may be contributing to poor computer performance or computer malfunctions.

The Virginia Department of Education requires school divisions across the commonwealth to administer the Virginia Standards of Learning Tests each year. These tests are administered to students in grades 3, 5, and 8 as well as end of course tests in Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, World History I, World History II, US History, Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, English 11 Reading and English 11 Writing. Beginning in the spring 2002 Radford City Schools will participate in the Virginia Standards of Learning on-line testing program. This program will provide students the opportunity to take the Virginia SOL test on the computer, which will provide a faster report of test data to school officials. Students testing on-line will access the test via the Internet through a secured site. Parents who choose not to allow their child to access the Internet through a computer at school are asked to give permission for their child to access the Internet for on-line testing purposes.

I agree to the rules and hereby give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to use the computer and the Internet.

**Parent or Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to the above rules and will abide by them in my use of the computer and the Internet.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish for \_\_\_\_\_ to personally use the computers to access the Internet. I understand that the teacher, guidance counselors, lab assistants, may use the Internet in classroom instruction.

**Parent or Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish for \_\_\_\_\_ to use the computer to access the Internet. I do however, grant permission for use of the computer for the Virginia Standards of Learning on-line testing program.

**Parent or Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix B

### **Web Based Resources**

This appendix lists Web sites related to Internet safety. All Web sites were accurate and online as of August 13, 2006.

#### Age-Appropriate Guidelines for Internet Use

*Be Web Aware* by Media Awareness Network (see Safety Tips by Age on left side of screen)

<http://www.bewebaware.ca/english/default.aspx>

- Safety tips by age (left-side menu)

*GetNetWise: Online Safety Guide* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/>

- A parent's perspective and information about online privacy

*A Parent's Guide to Online Safety: Ages and Stages* by Microsoft

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/children/parentsguide.msp>

- Guide to how children of different ages use the Internet

#### Cyberbullying

*Be Web Aware: Challenging Cyber Bullying* by Media Awareness Network

<http://www.bewebaware.ca/english/CyberBullying.aspx>

- Legal overview, role of Internet service providers, and information for taking action

*Cyberbullies* by National Crime Prevention Council

<http://www.mcgruff.org/ProblemSolver/cyberbully.htm>

- Tips for avoiding and handling *cyberbullies*

*Cyberbullying* handouts [untitled] by Bullying.org

[http://www.cyberbullying.org/pdf/Cyberbullying\\_Information.pdf](http://www.cyberbullying.org/pdf/Cyberbullying_Information.pdf)

- Details about *cyberbullying* (Canadian)

*OnGuard Online—US CERT Tip: Dealing with Cyberbullies* by United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team

<http://www.onguardonline.gov/certtips/st06-005.html>

- Recognition of and protection from *cyberbullies*

*STOP cyberbullying* by WiredKids

<http://www.stopcyberbullying.org/index2.html>

- Legal overview, prevention, and reporting

#### Definitions

*BeWebAware: Internet 101* by Media Awareness Network <http://www.bewebaware.ca/english/internet101.aspx>

<http://www.bewebaware.ca/english/internet101.aspx>

- Short glossary of Internet terms

*Glossary* by Symantec

<http://securityresponse.symantec.com/avcenter/refa.html>

- Extensive glossary of computer terms

*Internet Definitions* by Netsmartz

<http://www.netsmartz.org/safety/definitions.htm>

- Extensive online glossary

*The Librarian's Guide to Great Web Sites for Kids* by American Library Association

<http://www.ala.org/parentspage/greatsites/guide.html>

- Definitions of new technologies (end of paper)

*OnGuard Online: Glossary* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://onguardonline.gov/glossary.html>

- Standard glossary of computer terms

## E-mail

*BeWebAware: Spam* by Media Awareness Network

<http://www.bewebaware.ca/english/spam.aspx>

- Tips for parents regarding *spam*

*GetNetWise: Risks by Technology: Email* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/technology/email>

- Basic overview of *spam* and junk mail

*Help Keep Spam Out of Your Inbox* by Microsoft <http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/email/fightspam.msp>

- Tips and *filters* for blocking junk mail

*OnGuard Online: Spam Scams* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://onguardonline.gov/spam.html>

- List of popular scams and recommendations for avoiding problems

*Sorted: Keep your information secure online* by Childnet International [http://](http://www.childnet-int.org/sorted/)

[www.childnet-int.org/sorted/](http://www.childnet-int.org/sorted/)

- Maintaining student safety and privacy

## Ethics

*Cyberethics* by U.S. Department of Justice, Computer Crime & Intellectual Property Section

<http://www.cybercrime.gov/cyberethics.htm>

- Links to sites about *cybercrime*

*RespectCopyrights.org* by Motion Picture Association of America

<http://www.respectcopyrights.org/content.html>

- Issues involved with illegal downloads

## Filtering

*BeWebAware: Get the Most out of the Internet: Technological Tools* by Media Awareness Network

<http://www.media>

[awareness.ca/english/teachers/wa\\_teachers/safe\\_passage\\_teachers/getmost\\_techtools.cfm](http://www.mediaawareness.ca/english/teachers/wa_teachers/safe_passage_teachers/getmost_techtools.cfm)

- Checklist for evaluating content-management products and related issues

*Filtering and Blocking* by WiredKids

<http://www.wiredkids.org/safesites/filtering.html>

- Information about *filtering*, blocking, and outgoing software

[FilterReview.com](http://www.filterreview.com) by National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families

<http://www.filterreview.com/index.htm>

- Background for selecting the most appropriate *filters*

“Why Filters Won’t Protect Children or Adults” by Nancy Kranich, *Library Administration and Management* 18(1): 14-18 (published by American Library Association)

<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/ifissues/issuesrelatedlinks/whyfilterswontprotect.htm>

- Educating about Internet safety as opposed to using *filters*

## Hate Sites

*BeWebAware: Violent and Hateful Content* by Media Awareness Network

<http://www.bewebaware.ca/english/violent.aspx>

- Information about violent content, online hate, and what parents should do

*WHOIS Search* by Network Solutions

<http://www.networksolutions.com/whois/index.jsp>

- Search engine to determine ownership of domain names

## Identity Theft

*Help Prevent Identity Theft from Phishing Scams* by Microsoft

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/email/phishingemail.mspix>

- Basic overview of *phishing* scams

*Keep Your Identity To Yourself* by National Crime Prevention Council

[http://www.ncpc.org/media/Identity\\_Theft.php](http://www.ncpc.org/media/Identity_Theft.php)

- Free download of *Preventing Identity Theft: A Guide for Consumers*

*OnGuard Online: ID Theft* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://onguardonline.gov/idtheft.html>

- Steps to take in case of *identity theft*

*Your National Resource about Identity Theft* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>

- Resources about *identity theft*, including printable brochure and PowerPoint slides

## Instant Messaging

*10 Tips for Safer Instant Messaging* by Microsoft <http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/online/imsafety.mspix>

- Suggestions for using *instant messaging*

## International, National, and State Organizations

*ChildNet International Home Page*

<http://www.childnet-int.org>

*Cyberbullying.org*

<http://www.cyberbullying.org/>

*Cybercitizenship.org*

<http://www.cybercitizenship.org/index.html>

*Cyberethics, Cybersafety, Cybersecurity (C3) Institute* by University of Maryland, College of Education  
<http://www.edtechoutreach.umd.edu/C3Institute/c3resources.html>

*Family Internet Safety* by Attorney General of Virginia  
[http://www.oag.state.va.us/KEY\\_ISSUES/FAMILY\\_INTERNET/index.html](http://www.oag.state.va.us/KEY_ISSUES/FAMILY_INTERNET/index.html)

*GetNetWise* by Internet Education Foundation <http://www.getnetwise.com/>

*Internet Safety* by Polly Klaas Foundation  
<http://www.pollyklaas.org/internet-safety/index.html>

*i-SAFE* by Internet Safety Foundation  
<http://www.isafe.org/>

*Justice for Kids & Youth* by U.S. Department of Justice <http://www.usdoj.gov/kidspage/>

*Kidz Privacy* by Federal Trade Commission  
<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/edcams/kidzprivacy/index.html>

*National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Home Page*  
<http://www.missingkids.com/>

*NetSmartz* by National Center for Missing & Exploited Children <http://www.netsmartz.org/>

*OnGuard Online* by Federal Trade Commission  
<http://onguardonline.gov/index.html>

*OnGuard Online: U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team* by Federal Trade Commission <http://www.onguardonline.gov/certtips/index.html>

*Operation Blue Ridge Thunder* by Bedford County Sheriff's Office  
<http://www.blueridgethunder.com/default.htm>

[ProtectKids.com](http://www.protectkids.com/) by Enough Is Enough <http://www.protectkids.com/>

*SafeKids.Com*  
<http://www.safekids.com/>

*Safe Surfin' Foundation Home Page*  
<http://www.safesurfincentral.org/>

*Staysafe.org Home Page*  
<http://www.msn.staysafeonline.com/>

*Virginia Center for School Safety* by Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services  
<http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/vcss/?menuLevel=5>

*Web Wise Kids Home Page* by Web Wise Kids <http://www.wiredwithwisdom.org/>

[WiredSafety.org](http://www.wiredsafety.org/) by WiredKids (includes *Teenangels*, *WiredSafety*, and *WiredKids*)

<http://www.wiredsafety.org/>

## Internet Benefits and Risks

*Cybercrime Newsletter* by National Association of Attorneys General

<http://naag.org/publications/cybercrime/index.php>

- Online articles about different aspects of *cybercrime*

*GetNetWise: What are the Risks for Children Online?* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/danger/>

- Overview of various Internet risks

*Parenting Online* by WiredKids

<http://wiredkids.org/parents/parentingonline/index.html>

<http://wiredkids.org/resources/documents/pdf/parentingonline.pdf> (Printable version)

<http://www.wiredkids.org/parents/parentingonline/parentingonline-ES-v1.pdf> (Spanish version)

- Internet positives and negatives, plus tips for avoiding problems

“The Positives and Perils of the Internet: Working Together to Make Your Family’s Online Experience Safe and Fun” by Donna Rice Hughes ([ProtectKids.com](http://ProtectKids.com))

[http://www.protectkids.com/parentsafety/positive\\_peril.htm](http://www.protectkids.com/parentsafety/positive_peril.htm)

- Safety tips for parents and children

*What Are the Risks* by SafeKids.Com

<http://www.safekids.com/risks.htm>

- Brief overview of potential risks

## Legal: National

*Class Action: Virginia Students and the Law* by Attorney General of Virginia

[http://www.oag.state.va.us/KEY\\_ISSUES/CLASS\\_ACTION/](http://www.oag.state.va.us/KEY_ISSUES/CLASS_ACTION/)

- Information about computer crimes (material implemented generally by school resource officers)

*Education Law Association Home Page* [http://](http://www.educationlaw.org/)

[www.educationlaw.org/](http://www.educationlaw.org/)

- Developed by educational and legal scholars

*Internet Safety Policies and CIPA: An E-Rate Primer for Schools and Libraries* by E-Rate Central

[http://www.e-ratecentral.com/CIPA/cipa\\_policy\\_primer.pdf](http://www.e-ratecentral.com/CIPA/cipa_policy_primer.pdf)

- Requirements for federal funding related to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act (NCIPA)

*School Law in Review 2006* by National School Boards Association

[https://secure.nsba.org/pubs/item\\_info.cfm?ID=727](https://secure.nsba.org/pubs/item_info.cfm?ID=727)

- CD-ROM, available for purchase, including most aspects of education law

*School Law: Technology* by National School Boards Association

<http://www.nsba.org/site/page.asp?TRACKID=&CID=397&DID=8638>

- Legal technology information, including resources, news, and recent cases

*SPAM/Technology Crimes: Computer Crime Unit* by Attorney General of Virginia

<http://www.oag.state.va.us/CONSUMER/SPAM/index.html>

- Overview of *cybercrimes* in the Commonwealth of Virginia

*THOMAS* by Library of Congress <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

- Web site of Congress, including searchable database of *cybercrime* laws

*U.S. Code Collection* by Cornell Law School

<http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode20/>

- Past and current U.S. Code chapters related to education, including *cybercrime* issues

*Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services* by Virginia Center for School Safety

<http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/vcss/>

- Virginia legislative mandates for school safety

## Legal: Virginia Laws

*Computer fraud*

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+18.2-152.3> § 18.2-152.3

*Computer invasion of privacy* <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+18.2-152.5> § 18.2-152.5

*Computer trespass (hacking/cracking)* <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+18.2-152.4> § 18.2-152.4

*Enhanced penalties for using a computer in certain violations (advertising/producing obscene materials)* <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+18.2-376.1> § 18.2-376.1

*Harassment by computer (cyberbullying)* <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+18.2-152.7C1> § *theft* <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+18.2-186.3> § 18.2-186.3

## Online Games

*Ready, Set, Game: Learn How to Keep Video Gaming Safe and Fun* by Microsoft

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/children/gamingonline.mspx>

- Tips for parents to help children “play it safe with online games”

“10 Tips for Dealing with Game Cyberbullies and Grievers” on *Ready, Set, Game: Learn How to Keep Video Gaming Safe and Fun* by Microsoft

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/children/griefers.mspx>

- Suggestions for handling *griefers*, who cause trouble for other online game players

## Parent/Child Sample Agreements

*Family Contract for Online Safety* by [SafeKids.com](http://www.safekids.com)

<http://www.safekids.com/contract.htm>

- Kid’s Pledge and Parent’s Pledge

*Kids’ Rules for Online Safety* by [SafeKids.com](http://www.safekids.com)

<http://www.safekids.com/kidsrules.htm>

- Clear list of commitments

*Rules ‘N Tools Youth Pledge* by [ProtectKids.com](http://www.protectkids.com)

<http://www.protectkids.com/parentsafety/pledge.htm>

- Family Internet safety contract

*Using Family Contracts to Help Protect Your Kids Online* by Microsoft

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/children/famwebrules.mspx>

- Sample contract for online code of conduct

*Web Wise Kids: Internet Safety Plan* by Wired With Wisdom

<http://www.wiredwithwisdom.org/internet-safety-plan.pdf>

- Formatted as, “If [blank] happens, I will [blank]”

## Peer to Peer (P2P) or File Sharing

*OnGuard Online: Peer to Peer File-Sharing* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://onguardonline.gov/p2p.html>

- Facts and issues involved with P2P

*Sorted: File Sharing* by ChildNet International

<http://www.childnet-int.org/sorted/filessharing.aspx>

- Information on copyright and other legal issues related to *file sharing*

*Young People, Music & the Internet* by ChildNet International

<http://www.childnet-int.org/music/>

- Information and frequently asked questions for parents and young people

## Predators (Including Information on Luring and Grooming)

“How to recognize ‘grooming’: Teach your kids” by Anne Collier (*BlogSafety* by Tech Parenting Group)

<http://www.blogsafety.com/thread.jspa?threadID=1200000033>

- Tactics and links to other resources

*Online Predators: What You Can Do to Minimize the Risk* by Microsoft

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/children/kidpred.mspx>

- Information on how predators work, tips for parents, and guidelines for children

*Predator Tip Sheet* by i-SAFE

[http://xblock.isafe.org/docs/Eluding\\_Internet\\_Predators\\_Tip\\_Sheet.pdf](http://xblock.isafe.org/docs/Eluding_Internet_Predators_Tip_Sheet.pdf)

- Tips and reminders for recognizing potential problems

## Professional Development

*i-LEARN* by i-SAFE

<http://ilearn.isafe.org/>

- Free training with online video modules and lesson plans; requires login ID

*K-12 Professional Development and Overview Presentation* by CyberSmart

<http://www.cybersmart.org/pd/>

[http://www.cybersmart.org/info/overview\\_pres.asp](http://www.cybersmart.org/info/overview_pres.asp)

- Free online course for groups of 25 or more

## Reporting Problems

*Cyberstalking, Harassment, and Cyberbullying Form* by Wired Safety [https://](https://www.wiredsafety.org/forms/stalking.html)

[www.wiredsafety.org/forms/stalking.html](https://www.wiredsafety.org/forms/stalking.html)

- Online form for reporting *cyberstalking* and *cyberbullying*

*TheCyberTipline* by National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

<http://www.cybertipline.com/>

- Reporting mechanism for child sexual exploitation

*GetNetWise: Reporting Trouble* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/trouble/>

<http://onguardonline.gov/filecomplaint.html>

- Identifying, reporting, and educating children about online crimes

*Internet Crime Complaint Center* by FBI and National White Collar Crime Center

<http://www.ic3.gov/>

- Mechanism for reporting and investigating online crimes

*OnGuard Online: File a Complaint* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://onguardonline.gov/filecomplaint.html>

- Types of online crimes and who should be notified

*Report a CyberCrime* by [ProtectKids.com](http://ProtectKids.com)

<http://www.protectkids.com/report/index.htm>

- Cyber tipline and links to local FBI offices

## Research

*Online Victimization: A Report on the Nation's Youth* by Center for Missing & Exploited Children

[http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/servlet/ResourceServlet?LanguageCountry=en\\_US&PageId=869](http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/servlet/ResourceServlet?LanguageCountry=en_US&PageId=869)

- Documentation of youth exposure to sexual solicitation, sexual material, and harassment

*Safe & Smart: Research and Guidelines for Children's Use of the Internet* by National School Boards Foundation

<http://www.nsbf.org/safe-smart/index.html>

- Suggestions for using the Internet as a positive force

*Statistics: Teen Internet Safety* by National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (commissioned by Cox Communications)

<http://www.netSMART.org/safety/statistics.htm>

- Risks and opportunities of teen Internet use

*Study of Entertainment Media & Health: Internet* by Kaiser Family Foundation

<http://www.kff.org/entmedia/internet.cfm>

- Two reports: (1) Internet use by young people in grades 3-12 and (2) online food advertising that targets children

## Sample School and Division Policies

Andover (Mass.) Public Schools

[http://www.aps1.net/Internet%20Safety/internet\\_safety.htm](http://www.aps1.net/Internet%20Safety/internet_safety.htm)

- Internet safety Web page

Dedham (Mass.) Schools

[http://www.dedham.k12.ma.us/technology/Internet\\_Safety\\_Policy.pdf](http://www.dedham.k12.ma.us/technology/Internet_Safety_Policy.pdf)

- Internet safety policy, pertaining primarily to *filtering* and *monitoring*

Geneva (Ohio) Area City Schools

<http://www.genevaschools.org/aup/>

- Acceptable use and Internet safety policy

Henrico County (Va.) Public Schools

[http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/pdf/technology/accept\\_use2005.pdf](http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/pdf/technology/accept_use2005.pdf)

<http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/administration/instruction/technology/safety.html>

- Acceptable use and Internet safety policy
- *Internet Safety* Web page

Lake Washington (Wash.) School District

<http://www.lkwash.wednet.edu/lwsd/pdf/InternetSafetyPolicy.pdf>

- Internet safety policy

Montgomery County (Md.) Public Schools

<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/info/cipa/index.shtm>

- *Using the Internet Safely for Educational Purposes* Web page, including links to Internet safety and acceptable use policies

Portland (Maine) Public Schools

<http://www.portlandschools.org/CTS/documents/posterSAUP.pdf>

- Student acceptable use and internet safety policy

## Sites for Educators

*Computer Security Resource Center* by National Institute of Standards and Technology, Computer Security Division

<http://csrc.nist.gov/>

- Resources on security tools and practices

CSIA Policy Papers by Cyber Security Industry Alliance

[https://www.csialliance.org/publications/csia\\_whitepapers/](https://www.csialliance.org/publications/csia_whitepapers/)

- Various issues related to *cybersecurity*, including Talking Points For Cyber Security

*Cyberethics for Teachers: A Lesson Plan Outline for Elementary and Middle School Divisions* by U.S. Department of Justice

<http://www.cybercrime.gov/rules/lessonplan1.htm>

- Lesson plan that defines and explains how to prevent computer crimes

*Cyber Security Basics: Consumers* by National Cyber Security Alliance

<http://www.staysafeonline.info/basics/consumers.html>

- Resources to protect the home from cyber threats

*Cyber Security Basics: Educators* by National Cyber Security Alliance

<http://www.staysafeonline.info/basics/educators.html>

- Resources to help students become better cyber citizens

*Cyber Security Basics: Help Keep Kids Connected and Protected* by National Cyber Security Alliance

<http://www.staysafeonline.org/connectedandprotected.html>

- Information for educators and parents about *social networking*

*Cyber Security for the Digital District* by Consortium for School Networking

<http://securedistrict.cosn.org/>

- Security issues superintendents need to know

*Cyber Security for the Digital District: Understanding the Issues: The K-12 Technology Context* by Consortium for School Networking

<http://securedistrict.cosn.org/admin/issue/context.html>

- Far-ranging paper for district superintendents about various security concerns, including student safety

*Cybersecurity* by EDUCAUSE

[http://www.educause.edu/Browse/645?PARENT\\_ID=702](http://www.educause.edu/Browse/645?PARENT_ID=702)

- Resources that target primarily higher education, but also useful to K-12 administrators

*How to Protect Kids' Privacy Online: A Guide for Teachers* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/online/teachers.pdf>

- Impact of the federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act on Web site operators and teachers

*OnGuard Online: Videos and Tutorials* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://onguardonline.gov/tutorials/index.html>

- Practical tips about *cybersecurity*

"ONLINE SAFETY: What the Children's Internet Protection Act has in store for you this fall" by Elliott Levine (*Electronic School*, National School Boards Association)

<http://www.electronic-school.com/2001/09/0901onlinesafety.html>

- Information about developing an Internet safety policy and using *filters*

*Play It Cyber Safe* by Business Software Alliance

<http://www.playitcybersafe.com/resources/index.cfm>

- Resources for teachers and parents

*Safe and Secure?* by Scholastic

<http://content.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=127>

- Steps for determining network security

*Safe & Smart: Research and Guidelines for Children's Use of the Internet* by National School Boards Foundation

<http://www.nsbf.org/safe-smart/index.html>

- Suggestions for using the Internet as a positive force

*Safeguarding Your Technology* by U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs98/safetech/>

- Guidelines for administrators to secure computer information, software, and equipment

*US-CERT: U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team*

<http://www.uscert.gov/>

- Up-to-date information about threats to *cybersecurity*

*Virginia Alliance for Secure Computing and Networking*

<http://vascan.org/>

- Targeted for Virginia higher-education IT security experts, but also helpful to K-12 IT security officials

*WiredKids: Educators* by WiredKids

<http://www.wiredkids.org/educators/index.html>

- Articles for educators, including "Internet Problem Issues for Schools" and "Teacher Safety"

## Sites for Kids

*Are You a Safe Cybersurfer?* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/infosecurity/forkids.html>

- Online quiz for kids, with printable stickers, posters, and *bookmarks*

*Copyright Kids!* by Copyright Society of the U.S.A.

<http://www.copyrightkids.org/>

- Information for students, parents, and children about copyright

*Cyberethics for Kids* by U.S. Department of Justice

<http://www.cybercrime.gov/rules/kidinternet.htm>

- Rules for using the Internet and information about hacking

*CyberSpacers* sponsored by U.S. Department of Justice, Dell, and Information Technology Association of America

<http://www.cyberspacers.com/>

- Games, comics, and celebrity interviews focusing on cyberethics issues

*Cybertreehouse* by Business Software Alliance

<http://www.cybertreehouse.com/>

- Information about cyberethics

*FauxPaw the Techno Cat* by iKeepSafe Coalition

[http://ikeepSAFE.org/iksc\\_statemessage/state.php?abbr=VA](http://ikeepSAFE.org/iksc_statemessage/state.php?abbr=VA)

- Animated movie and book on the left-side menu relate the adventures of a cat in cyberspace

*Get Your Web License* by PBS KIDS <http://pbskids.org/license/>

- Interactive quiz on Internet safety

*GetNetWise: Safety Tips for Kids* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/kids>

- Guidelines for Internet safety

*KidzPrivacy: Just for Kidz* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/kidzprivacy/kidz.htm>

- Information about surfing, privacy, and personal information

*NetSmartzKids*

<http://www.netsmartzkids.org/indexfl.htm>

- Cartoon characters, games, music videos, and e-cards related to Internet safety

*Problem Solver: Stay Safe Online* by National Crime Prevention Council

<http://www.mcgruff.org/ProblemSolver/webSafety.htm>

- Rules, pledge, quiz, activities about Internet safety

*Safety Tips: Internet Safety* by FBI Kids

<http://www.fbi.gov/kids/k5th/safety2.htm>

- Concise overview of cyberethics

*Sophia's Safe Surfing Club* by WiredKids

[http://www.wiredkids.org/ktt\\_universal/games/sophia/sophie1.html](http://www.wiredkids.org/ktt_universal/games/sophia/sophie1.html)

- Information and quiz regarding Internet safety, including a printable Internet Safe Surfing Permit

*staysafe.org* for Kids

<http://www.msn.staysafeonline.com/kids/default.html>

- Activities and games about Internet safety and an explanation of a virtual community

*Surf Swell Island: Adventures in Internet Safety* by Disney

<http://disney.go.com/surfswell/index.html>

- Fun activity site, with many ads

*Web Literacy Tips* by PBS KIDS

<http://pbskids.org/privacy/literacytips.html>

- Concise, simple language kids can understand

*Web Wise Kids: Safety Tips for Kids* by WiredWithWisdom

<http://www.wiredwithwisdom.org/internet-safety-tips-kids.pdf>

- Short list of do's and don'ts

## Sites for Older Kids

*Computer Security Awareness Video Contest* by EDUCAUSE

<http://www.educause.edu/SecurityVideoContest/7103>

*Don't Believe the Type* by NetSmartz

<http://tcs.cyberline.com/>

- Links to “Know the Dangers,” including tips for keeping safe with various technologies

*GetNetWise: Safety Tips for Teens* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/teens>

- Guidelines for online communications

*Internet Superheroes* by WiredKids

<http://www.internetsuperheroes.org/>

- Internet safety/security issues, such as *cyberbullying* and *instant messaging*, using Marvel superheroes

*SafeTeens.Com* by SafeKids.Com and Internet Safety Project

<http://www.safeteens.com/>

- Common sense advice on newer technologies

*staysafe.org* for Teens by [staysafe.org](http://staysafe.org)

<http://www.msn.staysafeonline.com/teens/default.html>

- Straightforward articles about various technologies and how to enjoy the Internet, stay safe, and communicate with parents

*Teenangels* by WiredSafety

<http://www.teenangels.org/>

- Specially trained teens who spread the word in their schools about Internet safety

*X-BLOCK: i-MENTORs* by i-SAFE

<http://xblock.isafe.org/imentors.php>

- Free online training for students (grades 5-12) to become i-MENTORs and promote Internet safety at school

## Sites for Parents

*Cyber Security Basics: Consumers* by National Cyber Security Alliance

<http://www.staysafeonline.info/basics/consumers.html>

- Resources related to Internet security

*Cyber Security Basics: Family & Children* by National Cyber Security Alliance [http://](http://www.staysafeonline.info/basics/family.html)

[www.staysafeonline.info/basics/family.html](http://www.staysafeonline.info/basics/family.html)

- Resources for parents to protect children

*Cyber Security Basics: Help Keep Kids Connected and Protected* by National Cyber Security Alliance

<http://staysafeonline.org/connectedandprotected.html>

- Guide for educators, parents, and guardians regarding *social networking* sites

*Don't Believe the Type: For Parents and Guardians* by NetSmartz

<http://tcs.cyberline.com/parentsguardians.htm>

- Tips for parents to keep their teens safe

*GetNetWise: Safety Tips for Families* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/families>

- Guidelines for protecting children

*How to Protect Kids' Privacy Online* by Federal Trade Commission <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/online/kidsprivacy.pdf>

- Impact of the federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act on Web site operators and parents

*Internet Safety: Information for Parents* by WiredKids <http://www.wiredsafety.org/parent.html>

- Frequently asked questions by parents, including many related to new technologies

*i-PARENT* by i-SAFE

<http://ilearn.isafe.org/>

- Free online training modules help parents protect their children

*Keeping Children Safe Online* by U.S. Computer Emergency Response Team

<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST05-002.html>

- Suggestions for parents to protect their children online

*Keeping Your Kids Internet Safe and Smart: A Survival Guide for Parents* by Common Sense Media

<http://www.commonsense.com/download/index.php>

- Free downloadable booklet and weekly e-mail updates

"My Turn: There's One More Talk You Need to Have" by Martha Stansell-Gamm (*Newsweek*, September 15, 2003)

<http://www.cybercrime.gov/onemoretalk.htm>

- Short article by the head of the U.S. Department of Justice's Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section

*A Parent's Guide to Internet Safety* by FBI

<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguidee.htm>

- Detailed publication, including tips and definitions

*A Parent's Guide to Online Kids* by The Children's Partnership

[http://www.childrenspartnership.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Speeches\\_and\\_Presentations&CONTENTID=9071&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm](http://www.childrenspartnership.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Speeches_and_Presentations&CONTENTID=9071&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm)

- Online PowerPoint presentation covering various types of Internet access and potential benefits/dangers parents should know

*The Parent's Guide to the Information Superhighway: Rules and Tools for Families Online* by The Children's Partnership

[http://www.childrenspartnership.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Speeches\\_and\\_Presentations&CONTENTID=4687&TEMPLATE=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm](http://www.childrenspartnership.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Speeches_and_Presentations&CONTENTID=4687&TEMPLATE=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm)

- Downloadable PDF guide, published in 1998 but still provides useful information about children and the Internet

*Parent's Rules 'N Tools* by [ProtectKids.com](http://ProtectKids.com)

<http://www.protectkids.com/parentsafety/index.htm>

- Guidelines for parents to protect their children

*Raising CyberSafe Kids* by National Crime Prevention Council

<http://www.mcgruff.org/Grownups/is.htm>

- Overview of dangers and how to protect kids

*Safe Surfin' Foundation*

<http://www.safesurfincentral.org/>

- Resources on educating young people about Internet crimes

*Social Networking Sites: A Parent's Guide* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/tech/tec13.pdf>

- Tips for protecting children

*staysafe.org* for Parents by [staysafe.org](http://www.staysafe.org)

<http://www.msn.staysafeonline.com/parents/default.html>

- Articles explaining newer technologies, communication and safety issues, and practical tips for using software to keep children safe

*10 Common Questions about Internet Safety* by [iKeepSafe.org](http://www.ikeepsafe.org) and Symantec

[http://www.ikeepsafe.org/iksc\\_partners/symantec/](http://www.ikeepsafe.org/iksc_partners/symantec/)

- Free online "Parent's Tech Tutorial"

*Web Wise Kids: Tips for Parents* by WiredWithWisdom

<http://www.wiredwithwisdom.org/internet-safety-tips-parents.pdf>

- List of recommendations for parents

*Web Wise Kids: Wired with Wisdom* by WiredWithWisdom(Online or CD course, fee)

<http://www.wiredwithwisdom.org/wiredwithwisdom.asp>

- Tutorial for parents on how to keep their children safe on the Internet; available on CD or downloadable for fee

*WiredKids: Parents* by WiredKids

<http://www.wiredkids.org/parents/index.html>

- Resources available under "Parent" pull-down menu

*Yahooligans! Parents' Guide* by Yahoo!

<http://yahooligans.yahoo.com/docs/safety/index.html>

- Safe-surfing guidelines

*Yahooligans! Parent's Guide to Internet Rating Systems* by Yahoo!

[http://yahooligans.yahoo.com/Parents\\_Guide/Safety\\_Sites/Rating\\_Systems/](http://yahooligans.yahoo.com/Parents_Guide/Safety_Sites/Rating_Systems/)

- Links for parents

## **Social Networking (Blogs, Personal Web Pages, Chats)**

*Blogsafety* by Childnet International

<http://www.childnet-int.org/blogsafety/>

- Excellent site with advice for all stakeholders

*BlogSafety Forum* by Tech Parenting Group

<http://www.blogsafety.com/>

- Information for kids, parents, and teachers about how to use *blogs* safely, including acronyms

*ChatDanger: How to Keep SAFE While Chatting Online* by Childnet International

<http://www.chatdanger.com/>

- *Social networking* true stories

*GetNetWise: Chat* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/technology/chat>

*GetNetWise: Social Networking Sites* by Internet Education Foundation

<http://kids.getnetwise.org/safetyguide/technology/socialnetworking>

- Suggestions for parents and children

*Social Networking Sites: Safety Tips for Tweens and Teens* by Federal Trade Commission

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/tech/tec14.pdf>

- Tips for socializing safely online

*Tips for Safer Chatting* by Microsoft

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/online/chatsafety.mspx>

- Recommendations for both parents and kids

## **Student Instruction: Lesson Plans/Curricula**

*Activities and Lessons* by Wired Safety

<http://www.wiredsafety.org/wiredlearning/toc.html>

- New site with great lessons

*Curriculum Scope* by CyberSmart Education Company

[http://www.cybersmartcurriculum.org/curr\\_over/](http://www.cybersmartcurriculum.org/curr_over/)

- 65 lesson plans—arranged by age level and subtopic (safety, manners, advertising, research and technology)—with individual lessons (under “Lesson Plans and Activity Sheets”) and posters, sample letters to parents, and tips for home Internet use (under “More Free Stuff”)

*Educational Games* by Media Awareness Network

<http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/games/index.cfm>

- Interactive games with teacher’s guides for educating about Internet safety, advertising ploys, and hate sites

*Educators Home* by NetSmartz

<http://www.netsmartz.org/educators.htm>

- Classroom materials that teach children to be safe online

*iLEARN Curriculum* by i-SAFE

<http://ilearn.isafe.org/>

- Curriculum available after online training

*Online Safety and Digital Ethics* by Nortel LearnIT

[http://www.nortellearnit.org/LearnIT/technology/Online\\_Safety/](http://www.nortellearnit.org/LearnIT/technology/Online_Safety/)

[http://www.nortellearnit.org/LearnIT/technology/Digital\\_Ethics/](http://www.nortellearnit.org/LearnIT/technology/Digital_Ethics/)

- Links to short informational videos about Internet Safety and Ethics

*Safe Passage: Introduction* by Media Awareness Network [http://www.media-](http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/teachers/wa_teachers/safe_passage_teachers/index.cfm)

[awareness.ca/english/teachers/wa\\_teachers/safe\\_passage\\_teachers/index.cfm](http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/teachers/wa_teachers/safe_passage_teachers/index.cfm)

## Glossary

**blog/blogging:** This term is derived from *Web log* and is an increasingly popular type of Web site. Most take the form of journal entries and allow readers to post comments.

**bookmark(s):** This browser feature stores a Web address in memory and allows the user to link quickly to the site.

**chat rooms:** These Web sites or online services facilitate electronic discussions by quickly posting the comments and responses of multiple users.

**circumventor sites:** These parallel Web sites allow children to get around some *filtering* software and access sites that have been blocked.

**cyberbullies/cyberbullying:** This refers to any online threats by one student toward another, typically through e-mails or on Web sites (e.g., *blogs*, *social networking* sites).

**cybercrime:** This refers to any Internet-related illegal activity.

**cybersecurity (sometimes *cyber security*):** This refers to any technique, software, etc., used to protect computers and prevent online crime.

**cyberstalking:** This refers to a number of methods individuals use to track, lure, or harass another person online.

**electronic footprints:** Computers maintain a record of all Web site visits and e-mail messages, leaving a trail of the user's activity in cyberspace. These data can still exist even after the browser *history* has been cleared and e-mail messages have been deleted.

**favorite(s):** This is the name for *bookmarks* (see above) used by Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser.

**file sharing:** This software enables multiple users to access the same computer file simultaneously. File sharing sometimes is used illegally to download music or software.

**filter/filtering:** This refers to different types of software that screen and block online content.

**gaming:** This term describes Internet games, which can be played either individually or by multiple online users at the same time.

**griefers:** These Internet users intentionally cause problems for other *gamers*.

**grooming:** This refers to the techniques sexual predators use to get to know their victims in preparation for sexual abuse.

**history:** This is a tracking feature of Internet browsers that shows all the recent Web sites visited.

**identity theft:** In this crime, someone obtains the vital information (e.g., credit card, Social Security, bank account numbers) of another person, usually to steal money. E-mail scams, *spyware*, and *viruses* are among the most typical methods for stealing someone's identity.

**instant message/messaging:** Known by the acronym *IM*, this is a variation of *chat rooms* that allows users to communicate through text messages.

**malicious code:** This refers to any computer code that is intentionally introduced into a system to damage or destroy files or disrupt the operation of a computer.

**monitoring:** This refers generally to the technique of tracking where people have been on the Internet by looking at the *history* of the browser. It also refers to software used for the same purpose.

### **P2P (see peer-to-peer computing)**

**peer-to-peer (P2P) computing:** This is a popular way for Internet users to share one another's computer files—usually music, game, or software files.

**phishing:** This scam involves sending a fraudulent e-mail soliciting credit card, Social Security, or other personal information from an unsuspecting user.

**social networking:** This refers broadly to online communities where people share information about themselves, music files, photos, etc. There are many social networking Web sites (e.g., MySpace, Facebook, or Friendster).

**spam:** This refers to any unsolicited e-mail, or junk mail. Most spam is either a money scam or sexual in nature. Internet Service Providers, e-mail software, and other software can help block some, but not all, spam.

**viruses:** These are software programs that typically arrive through e-mail attachments and multiply on the hard drive, quickly exhausting the computer's memory. A *trojan* is a variation that allows unauthorized users access to the computer, from which they can send infected e-mails or *spam*.

**wireless computers:** Many networks now allow computers access to the Internet without being connected with wires. These networks are becoming increasingly more popular and powerful, allowing people to access the Intern