Internet Safety For Kids

keeping your family safe.

Sheriff John R. Lenhart

Parents, be aware of and involved with your children's internet activity. Teach your children internet safety rules. Here are a few to get you started:

Never give out any personal information. This incudes your name, address, phone number, the name of your school, city, family members, sports team you're on, parent's workplace, or anything that might help someone know who or where you are.

Never give your passwords to anyone except your parents. Never change the settings for your computer, or change your password without your parents' permission.

Do not answer emails or IM's from anyone you don't know as a "face to face" friend. This means if they are not a friend or family member you know in person, then you don't respond.

Never meet an online friend in person. They are strangers and may not be who they say they are. If anyone ever asks to meet you, tell you parents immediately.

If you ever feel uncomfortable, if anyone uses bad language or you see or hear something that seems wrong, immediately log off and tell your parents or a trusted adult.

Never lie about your age to access any website.

Never send pictures of your family or yourself to anyone online without first getting your parents' permission. NEVER engage in "sexting". NEVER forward any "sexting" photos you may receive.

Do not fill out "fun" questionnaires, even if they are forwarded to you from friends. Remember, once you send it out, you have no control over who it is forwarded to and it may contain personal information about you.

Follow the same Internet safety rules at your friends' houses, at school and at the library that you follow at home.

Remember, NOTHING is private on the Internet. Never say, do, or post anything that you don't want the world to see.

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