

Children's Guide To Safe Internet Use





Introduction

The Internet is fun!

You can find all kinds of stuff on the Internet and talk to people around the world.

Remember to follow your family's rules for safe surfing.



Internet Basics

What is the Internet?

An electronic network providing access to millions of resources worldwide.

A global network connecting millions of computers.

Millions of people are online talking to each other and sharing information.





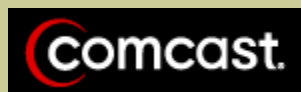
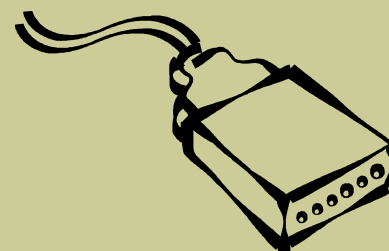
Internet Basics

What do I need to start?

A computer (desktop, laptop, blackberry, palm pilot).

An account with an Internet service provider (ISP) like (Comcast, Sprint, AOL, Earth link).

A phone or cable line.





Internet Basics

Where else can I get online?

Home, school, public library, community center.



What can I do on the Internet?

Find answers to your questions, talk to someone in a "chat" room, research, and shop.





Internet Basics

What does the Internet have for kids?

Information to help you with your homework.

A way to communicate through e-mail and chat rooms.

Games, clubs, pen pals.

Fun stuff about music, sports, animals, art, and astronomy - anything you're interested in!





Internet Basics

What is a web site?

A collection of web pages linked together on a single topic or for a single business that are accessible from the World Wide Web using a browser.

What's a browser?

A browser is a software program that lets you read web sites.

Examples: Internet Explorer, Mozilla FireFox, Netscape, Opera, Safari (Macintosh).

What's a search engine?

A search engine is a web based program that helps you find information.

Examples: Google, Yahoo, Ask Jeeves, Alta Vista.



Internet Basics

How does e-mail work?

With a normal letter you put a stamp on it, take it to the post office, and it arrives in a mailbox.

With e-mail you write the letter and send it out. It travels through the World Wide Web and arrives in an inbox.



What are chat rooms?

Chat rooms are 'live' conversations online.

Some are monitored by adults, some are not.



How to Have a Safe, Educational and Rewarding Trip

Is the Internet safe?

The Internet is very safe. But like any other trip, whether to a mall, another city or country, there are some places you don't want to go and some people you don't want to meet.

That's why it's important to know and follow certain rules and safety measures.

Talk to your parents or teachers about any sites you may be unsure about.





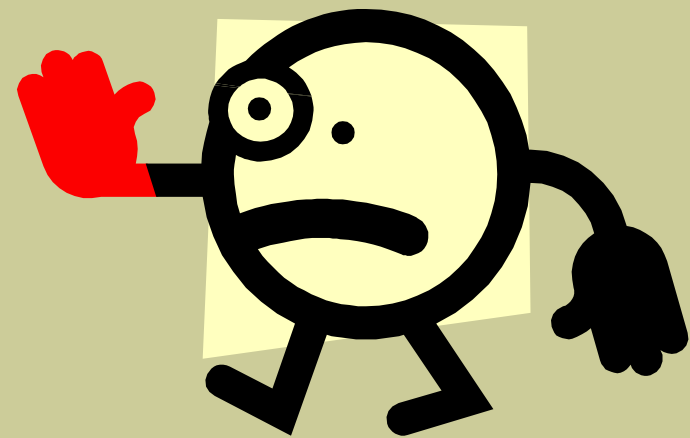
How to Have a Safe, Educational and Rewarding Trip

What kind of bad stuff is on the Internet?

Viruses that can mess up your computer.

Strangers or bad people who try to contact you through e-mail or chat rooms.

Some web sites that are for adults only or even illegal.





How to Have a Safe, Educational and Rewarding Trip

Safer surfing with your parents, teacher, librarian or other caregiver

Take the trip together.

You can be the 'coach' and help your parents learn about the Internet.

Tell your parents to put the computer in the family room or use the computer together at the library or community center.

Agree to follow these common-sense rules:



How to Have a Safe, Educational and Rewarding Trip

Tips

I won't give out my name, age, school, address, phone number, picture or any other information about myself or my family without getting permission. This includes chat rooms, surfing the web, message boards or other online activities like entering contests or registering for clubs that may seem harmless.

If I see or get something online that looks weird or bad or that makes me uncomfortable, I won't respond. I'll leave that area right away and tell my parents or teacher.



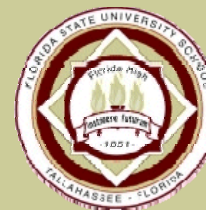
How to Have a Safe, Educational and Rewarding Trip

Tips continued

I won't open or accept e-mails, files, links, websites or other things online from people I don't really know or trust.

I won't get together with anyone I meet online without getting my parent's permission first.

I won't give out my password to anyone but my parents, not even to my best friend.



Resources

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

<http://parentalcontrols.blogspot.com/>