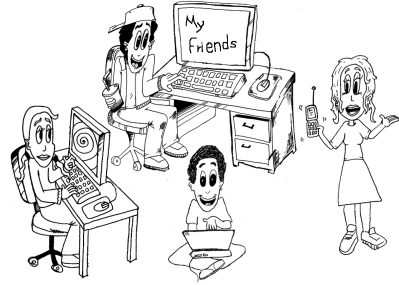


# Cyber Savvy Kids



No one has to tell you how fun the Internet is. Most kids make good choices online. But there are risks online and some kids make unsafe choices that hurt themselves or others.

This document will share how Cyber Savvy Kids make good choices!

## Be Cyber Savvy

- ✓ Keep yourself safe. Know how things might go wrong. Know what you need to do to prevent something bad from happening and what to do if something is wrong.
- ✓ Do the right things. Do not harm others. Respect the rights, privacy, and property of others.
- ✓ Take responsibility for others. Help others online. Report concerns to an adult.

## What You Do Reflects on You

### Make Good Choices Online

What you do online will affect how others think about you. Always think about what could happen to you or others.

#### Read With Your Eyes Open

- ✓ Remember anyone can post anything online. It might be true or not.

#### Think About What Might Happen

- ✓ Ask these questions:
  - How would you feel if someone did the same thing to you ~ or to a friend?
  - What would your mom or dad do?
  - How would you feel if this was posted on the bulletin board at school?
  - Is this against any rules or policies, like Terms of Use or an Acceptable Use Policy?

#### Be a Good Friend

- ✓ If a friend is making a bad choice ~ talk with your friend or tell an adult.
- ✓ If you see that someone could be harmed ~ tell an adult!

#### Watch for "Online Traps"

"Online traps" are reasons why kids might make bad choices.

- ◆ **You can't see me.** Some kids think that they are invisible online and so won't get caught if they do something wrong.
- ✓ Remember, your online actions can be traced ~ and you know what you did.
- ◆ **I can't see you.** Sometimes it is hard to tell that your online actions have hurt yourself or others. And sometimes other people could trick you.
- ✓ Think about what might happen. Don't trust everything people tell you online.
- ◆ **If I can do it, it must be okay.** Some kids think that if it is easy to do something, it must be okay to do so.
- ✓ Remember, just because you can, doesn't make it right.



# Keep Your Life in Balance

## Avoid Addictive Access

Spending time online can be fun ~ but don't let the time you spend online take the place of all of the other activities that also make your life happy and healthy.

### Ask Yourself Some Questions

- ◆ Do you spend too much time online?
- ◆ Do you spend time online instead of doing other fun things ~ especially with your friends?
- ◆ Do you argue with your parents about time limits?

### Take Charge of Your Time

- ✓ Set goals and keep track of your time online.
- ✓ Spend time with friends and family, do your homework and chores, enjoy physical activities, and get your sleep.



# Think Before You Post

## Protect Your Personal Information & Reputation

Anything you post online or send in an electronic message can be sent to anyone else. The more embarrassing the material you post or send ~ the more likely it will become very public and be seen by people who will judge you badly.

### Protect Yourself ~ Show the Best "You"

- ✓ You can safely share information about the things you are interested in and what you like to do on fun kid's sites.
- ✓ Do not share your real name, address, or phone number on web sites or to people you meet on web sites.
  - This could allow unsafe people or advertisers to find you in person.
- ✓ Never tell anyone your passwords.
  - Someone could break into your account and post things to make you look bad.
- ✓ Never post or send material that would make people think you are vulnerable, unkind, or make bad choices ~ or that you want to be kept a secret.
  - This information could become very public and hurt your reputation.
- ✓ Tell your parent if someone has posted harmful information about you.
- ✓ Be very respectful if you share information about others online.
  - Never say mean things or share information that a friend would want kept a secret.
- ✓ Never post material that could cause adults to think you are threatening to hurt someone.
- ✓ If you see that someone has posted material that makes you think they may want to hurt someone or themselves ~ quickly show this to an adult.

**If you wouldn't post it on a bulletin board at school ~ don't post or send it online or by cell phone!**



## Connect Safely

### Interact Safely with Others Online

You will connect with different kinds of people online ~ people you know in Real Life and people you do not know. Any can be safe or not.



### Connect With Good Friends ~ Avoid the “Creeps”

- ✓ Use a safe and friendly username.
- ✓ Wherever you communicate, use the protective features. Make sure you know how to save harmful messages, block unwanted people, and file a complaint.
- ✓ Connect with friends through email or instant messaging.
- ✓ Connect with strangers **only** on safe kid’s sites.
- ✓ Watch out for for the “creeps” ~ anyone who is overly friendly, weird, or hurtful.

## Keep it Secure

### Pay Attention to Security & Avoid Scams

Watch out for nasty viruses, bugs, worms, and scammers. Your parents should install security software. But you also have to do your part.



### Security Protections

- ✓ Ask your parent before you register on any new site. Some sites might not be safe.
- ✓ Use a safe password ~ with letters and numbers. Don’t share ~ except with your parents.
- ✓ Make sure your browser blocks pop-ups and the search engine is set to “safe search.”
- ✓ Ask your parent before you download any music, movies, software, or games.
- ✓ Never reply to emails or pop-ups that ask for your name, address, or passwords.
- ✓ If your computer acts “weird” ~ tell your parent. This is a sign of malware.

## Spot The Ads

### Be a Wise Consumer

Web site advertisers want you to “nag” your parents to buy you things. Many kid’s game sites are supported by advertising. Sometimes, the sites want to know what you are interested in, so they can decide what ads to show you. This is called “behavioral targeting.”

### Recognize When You Are the “Target”

- ✓ See if you can spot different kinds of online advertising. Look for:
  - Banner ads.
  - Games that are about products or use product characters.
  - Invitations to sign up to receive ads or coupons.
  - Asking you to send ads to your friends.
- ✓ Watch out if a site has a “quiz” or a “game” that asks what you like to buy or do. Ask your parent before you provide any information about yourself in a game or quiz.



## Stay Out of the Garbage

### Avoid "Yucky Stuff" Online

You can avoid accidentally accessing "gross stuff" with safe searching.

#### Surf Smart

- ✓ **Set It To "Safe."** Make sure your search engine is set to "safe search."
- ✓ **Read, Think, Then Click.** Don't click on suspicious links.
- ✓ **Don't Fall for Traps.** Don't type URLs. Type the name of the site you want to access in a search engine and then click on the link from the search returns.
- ✓ **Delete the Spam.** Never click on links in suspicious messages.
- ✓ **Turn It Off and Tell.** If "yucky stuff" appears ~ quickly turn off the screen and tell an adult. This way you will not get into trouble and the adult can figure out what went wrong.



## Effectively Handle Mean Kids Online ~ Don't Be One

### Prevent Cyberbullying

Cyberbullies use the Internet or cell phones to send hurtful messages or post information to damage people's reputation and friendships. Web sites and services have rules, called "Terms of Use," that prohibit use of the site to harm someone else.

Cyberbullying is not "cool" ~ it's cruel. You have the power to stop it!

#### Don't Put Yourself at Risk

- ✓ Don't post material others could use against you.
- ✓ Be careful not to accidentally insult others.
- ✓ Don't hang around online places where people treat you badly.

#### If You Are Targeted

- ✓ **Never retaliate!** This will just make things worse.
- ✓ If you are on a public site ~ leave or ignore the person and file a complaint with the site.
- ✓ If someone you know sends you a hurtful message or has posted hurtful material ~
  - **Calmly and strongly** tell the person to stop or remove the material.
  - Block the person's communications.
  - Or ask your parent for help.

#### Cyberbullies Aren't Cool!

- ✓ Don't be a cyberbully. People don't "deserve" to be treated badly. It's not "funny."
  - Bullies also end up hurting themselves ~ because no one likes to hang around with people who are mean to others.
- ✓ If someone is bullying you ~ don't retaliate online.
  - If you send or post nasty messages, other people might think you are the one who is causing the trouble, not the original bully.
- ✓ If you made a mistake and hurt someone ~ apologize.

#### Be a Helpful Friend

- ✓ Help a friend who is being bullied figure out what to do.
- ✓ Or tell an adult.



# Cyber Savvy Kids

## **What You Do Reflects on You** **Make Good Choices Online**

- ✓ Think about what might happen.
- ✓ Let other people know you make good choices.

## **Keep Your Life in Balance** **Avoid Addictive Access**

- ✓ Don't let your time online take the place of other important activities.

## **Think Before You Post** **Protect Your Personal Information & Reputation**

- ✓ If you would not post it on the bulletin board at school ~ don't post or send it online or using a cell phone.

## **Connect Safely** **Interact Safely with Others Online**

- ✓ Connect with friends through email or instant messaging.
- ✓ Connect with strangers only on safe kid's sites.
- ✓ Avoid "creeps" and hurtful people.

## **Keep it Secure** **Pay Attention to Security & Avoid Scams**

- ✓ Do your part to keep your computer secure.
- ✓ Protect your password.

## **Spot The Ads** **Be a Wise Consumer**

- ✓ Spot the different kinds of advertising.
- ✓ Watch out when sites ask what you like to buy or do. Ask a parent before you respond.

## **Stay Out of the Garbage** **Avoid "Yucky Stuff" Online**

- ✓ Set it to "safe."
- ✓ Read, think, then click.
- ✓ Don't fall for traps.
- ✓ Delete the spam.
- ✓ Turn it off and tell.

## **Effectively Handle Mean Kids** **Online ~ Don't Be One** **Prevent Cyberbullying**

- ✓ Don't put yourself at risk.
- ✓ If cyberbullied ~ never retaliate. Leave the site, say "stop," block the person, or get help from an adult.
- ✓ Don't be a cyberbully. You will hurt others and yourself.
- ✓ Help a friend or report to an adult.

**Keep Yourself Safe**  
**Do the Right Things**  
**Take Responsibility for Others**

