

Internet and Children: A Parental Guide

There are hundreds of thousands of opportunists and uncountable misleading links available on the Internet making it a real dangerous place for children. Things can become worse when these facts blend with the curiosity of the youngsters who hardly care about the consequences about what they encounter. Therefore, it is highly important for adults (parents or guardians) to be aware of several common occurrences and make the necessary precautions before something nasty happens.

1. Place the computer in a common place

As a parent, it's often hard to keep up with kids and technology. A simple solution is to place the computer in a location that is accessible by everyone, so that you can easily observe what they do. This includes portable devices (smart phones, tabs, iPads etc.) and the charging center should be in a central location accessible by everyone.

2. Have a good awareness

Know who your kids are talking with online. You can simply do this by talking with your kids. Maintain a friendly communication line with them and ask them to be open with you.

3. Use OpenDNS Family Shield or OpenDNS Home

Not only do you get a faster Internet experience, you also gain built-in fraud and phishing protection and adult content blocking which is customizable to filter additional subjects too (like blocking pro-suicide, mutilation, torture, pro-anorexia and other tasteless sites). The service is free and it protects all wired and wireless devices connected to your network.

4. Avoid torrents

Kids and young adults are targeted by criminals that promise to give them a game or software that has been "cracked" without the need to buy it. The game or software is downloaded at popular torrent sites. Since the software has been rewritten, it often contains special code to spy on all computer activity, recording website username and passwords, turning on an attached video camera (with no notification light) and worse. Since downloading and using cracked programs is illegal, avoid torrent sites!

5. Online games and social security number

Criminals target kids using online games that offer game upgrades in exchange for creating an account that asks too many confidential questions, including asking for their social security number. Kids see "leveling up" but often don't understand providing such information can begin a journey to identity theft. This is especially important considering that kids are the fastest growing group of victims of identity theft.

6. Video sites

Free movie streaming sites are well known to contain viruses, spyware, and worse. Advise kids to not click or visit sites that promise free movies. Also to never install any program these sites claim you need to watch the videos.

7. Do not let them reveal whereabouts

Advise your kids to not reveal details like contact number, addresses and other details which are sensitive.

8. Restrict video calls

Do not let your kids engage in video calls with strangers even when you are around. Make sure they communicate only with people you know very well. It's urgently important that you and your kids understand that even if you think your video call is private, **a hacker can be recording the video call**. Young kids in a flash of the moment may do things they think are private but aren't and can be used for blackmail months or years later.

The best option of all is to maintain a friendly communication with your kids and let them be open with you. Stay safe out there!

Call **1-888-576-2578** for help with virus and spyware infections and computer tune up.

See <http://RockStarVirusRemoval.com> for details.

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