

i-Parent Safety Tips

Keep the computer in an open area.

A responsible adult should always accompany minors while they access the Internet to provide support and direction should they be confronted with an aggressive solicitation or inappropriate materials.

Beware of all requests for your personal information online.

Criminals copy logos perfectly to trick you. Legitimate companies never send unsolicited requests for personal information. Never give out personal information unless you initiate the correspondence.

Respect your child's privacy.

Respect your child's privacy but make certain they know everyone on their e-mail "buddy" list personally. Work to develop a trust between you and your child that supports open and honest Internet use.

Delete unsolicited attachments.

Viruses, worms, and Trojan horses are activated by opening an infected e-mail attachment. "Spoof" viruses make e-mail look like someone you know sent the message. Use updated anti-virus software, install a firewall, and

regularly monitor your computer.

Know intellectual property and copyright regulations.

Using file-sharing programs for downloading music can open up your computer to identity thieves by giving access to your personal information. Downloading music and movies without paying for them is illegal.

Be a part of your child's online experience.

It can be a fun journey to explore the ways of the Internet as a family. As computer-savvy as kids and teens are today, they will certainly teach you a thing or two!

Get involved in your community.

Contact your school and make sure it is teaching Internet Safety using i-SAFE America curriculum and volunteer to help. Find out when the Ky Center for School Safety is offering an i-SAFE training and attend to become a trainer, then teach Internet Safety at your church, community group, or PTA.

For more information on keeping your children safe in the physical and virtual worlds, go to www.kycss.org. Go to www.isafe.org for additional Internet safety tips.

(Adapted from i-SAFE materials.)



Research consistently shows about 20 percent of online kids receive unwanted sexual solicitations.