

## “Think Before You Click” Keeping Your Child Safe on the Internet

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## Do You Speak Cyber?



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## Discussion

- How many answered 100% of the questions correctly?
- 95% of parents do NOT recognize online lingo
- What do the scores of this quiz tell you?
- What do you need to know? How can we monitor our kids online and keep them safe?



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### Note about Presentation

- This presentation is not recommending that you forbid your child to use the Internet.
- We, as educators, believe that technology is one of the most powerful tools for student learning.
- Goal – to raise awareness and to encourage monitoring of children while on-line.

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### Statistics on Children's Use of the Internet & Technology

- 92% of American homes with children ages 2-18 have a computer with a high speed internet connection
- 96% of American children ages 2-18 go online each day
- One in four children ages 4-14 have their own gaming consol (i.e. Nintendo DS). These children spend an average of 35 minutes per day gaming on this consol.
- 78% of school aged students say that they consider their virtual world and virtual socializing to be extremely important to them. (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Second Life, Webkinz, Club Penguin, etc.)

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### Statistics on Children's Use of the Internet & Technology

- 29% of students ages 6-11 have admittedly searched the Internet at school during class time.
- 4 million children are posting to the web every day
- 15 million children use instant messaging
- 46% of teens that own a cell phone subscribe to Internet access on their cell phones
- Children ages 10-14 prefer to surf the web, play on-line games, or visit virtual worlds instead of watching television

(Source: [www.frankwbaker.com/mediause](http://www.frankwbaker.com/mediause))

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## Alarming Stats About Kids and the Internet

- 1 of 17 children has reported that they have been bullied or harassed online
- 14% of kids say they have met face to face with a stranger that they met online
- Most kids say that they will not tell their parents if approached by a stranger online because they fear technology will be taken away.

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## Common On-Line Behaviors by Children

- Chatting, blogging, texting, socializing, sharing pictures, videos, and e-mails. It is part of their social culture.
- On-line gaming.
- Send viruses to other users
- Children are more savvy users than adults. They know how to clear Internet history and hide their previous activity on-line.
- Children are natives to technology....adults are immigrants!

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## Advantages of Internet Usage for Children

- Instant access to information for school related projects and academics
- Instant access to valuable tools for daily living
- Instant access to grades, teachers, parents, friends, relatives, current events, and other resources
- Instant communication for academic collaboration with peers
- Continual means of socializing with peers

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### What are the risks for our kids....

- On-Line Predators
- Identity theft
- Cyber bullying
- Inappropriate materials
- Lack of adult knowledge of on-line behaviors and technology. This prevents good adult monitoring of children on-line.



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### On-Line Predators

- Predators often enter child and teen chat rooms or social networking sites and pursue young children.
- They often lie about their identity and build a relationship with a child on-line and then ask to meet them in person in order to kidnap or hurt the child.
- Sometimes they do not lie about their identity and do the same as above.
- 71% of children say they have received online contact from people they do not know.

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### Who Are On-Line Predators and What Do They Do?

- They exchange inappropriate sexual photos, videos with children. Often send pornographic images to children.
- They view blogs and social networking sites (Facebook, Instagram) to find children and information about where they are, who they are with, and when is the best time to find them.
- People from all walks of life have been arrested for such acts. However, most predators are males in search of children of all ages.

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### What Are the Consequences?

- Children have been kidnapped, hurt, raped, and murdered by on-line predators.
- PA Attorney General's Office has Internet Child Predator Unit that monitors web pages each day. They catch and prosecute several predators in a given year.

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### What Is Cyber Bullying?



Definition: Sending or posting harmful or cruel words, videos, or pictures on the Internet, in a text message, or any other form of digital media. (Peer to peer). Unlike school yard bullying, cyber bullying has potential to happen 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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### How Do Kids Cyber Bully?

- Send e-mails or texts that are cruel, defaming, mean
- Post pictures or videos of others that are mean or cruel
- Post cruel items on blogs or social networking site, posting pictures with derogatory captions or comments
- Create on-line polls about who is "cool" or not, "hot" or not, and ranking of student popularity or sexual behavior.
- Use someone else's e-mail address or cell phone to send incriminating or vicious information to others
- Rank/rate friendships and relationships on-line.
- Harassing others with instant messages
- "Sexting"

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