

What is identity theft, and how can I prevent it from happening to me?

Identity theft is when people steal your personal information—usually using your social security number—to get loans, credit cards, or even medical services. The problem with this type of fraud is that it could destroy your credit. This means that when you are 18 or older and you apply for a loan to get a car or home, creditors will look at your credit report. If your information has been used fraudulently, they may find that you have a terrible credit score because the person using your information has not paid his or her bills on time, or at all.

Is it okay to copy and paste things that I find online?





This is only acceptable if you give credit to the person who created the content. If you quote someone, acknowledge the quote is not yours by attaching the author's name to the quote. If it's a photograph, give the photographer the credit. Provide a link where appropriate. It is not okay to copy and paste sentences and paragraphs and use them as your own.

What are online predators?



Online predators are people who use the internet to find teens and kids they can trick into sexual behavior or abuse in other ways.

The FBI says that there are 500,000 active predators on the internet every day with multiple profiles. Their main target is kids between 12 and 15.

Many youth are frightened and shamed into submitting to predators' demands for more and more nude and sexual content. If this ever happens to you or someone you know, it is vitally important to tell an adult. You will not be in trouble. You have been a victim of a crime, and adults want to help put an end to such abuse and crime.

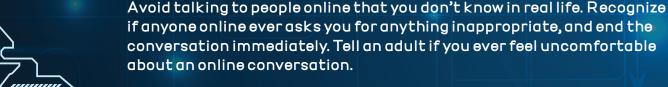


QUESTION...

How do I avoid becoming a victim of online predators?









How can I avoid bait and switch tactics?



Bait and switch is when a company lures you in with a really great "deal," but then it turns out the item advertised is not actually available. Then they try to sell you a more expensive item or a much lower-quality item for the advertised price.

- lf an offer seems too good to be true, it most likely is.
- 2. Do some research on the company before you buy.
- 3. Avoid quick impulse buying.



What should I do if I see something online that makes me uncomfortable?

Tell a trusted adult. Remember, you are not in trouble. It is always better to talk to someone about something that is bothering you than to carry a burden quietly on your own. Your parents and others want you to have a safe online experience. Despite the dangers, there is so much good that can come from using the internet.

How can I best use the internet for fun and learning?



Content for fun and learning online is endless. From studying a new language to connecting with friends and family to learning how to build a car engine, the opportunities go on and on. If you know about the internet's pitfalls, you are less likely to fall into them, thereby creating a more positive and fun learning experience.

What should I know about cookies?



We're not talking about the warm kind with melty chocolate chips... here we are talking about bits of information saved on your browser or to your computer. Generally, these bits of information help you have a smoother, more pleasant browsing experience because you don't have to reenter information each time you visit a website. However, some cookies are used to track your browsing history in order to send you custom advertising. Many people feel this is a serious breach of privacy. There are ways to clear cookies from your browser and to change settings to prohibit cookies on your computer. Ask an adult to help you do this.

What is spam, and how can I avoid spreading it?

Spam is any unwanted, annoying digital communication that is sent out in bulk. It usually comes through email, but it can also be received through social media, texts, or phone calls. Be careful of chain emails that ask you to forward things to friends. Often spammers are just collecting masses of emails to use to send out more annoying spam or malware.

CYBER SAFETY PLEDGE

- I will be mindful of the time I spend online, on a phone, or with other technology. I will make sure my use of technology doesn't interfere with real human interaction, schoolwork, and sleep.
- 2. I will neither tolerate bullying nor be a bully. I will respect myself and others.
- I will be a kind online citizen. I will support friends and others who may need help with difficult situations.
- I will strive to create an atmosphere of tolerance and respect at home, at church, and with my peers.

CYBER SAFETY

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

The internet has many opportunities for learning, but users should proceed with caution. This book teaches about identity theft, online sexual predators and sextortion, cyberbullying, pornography, and much more. This is information you don't want your children to miss.







