

How Safe are Your Children on the Internet? What Do You Need to Know?

Studies show the Internet plays a major role in many children's lives. One recent study suggests that nearly 90 percent of children aged 12 to 17 use the Internet. Studies also show that one in five of those children will receive an online sexual solicitation in the course of a year, and only 25 percent of those children told a parent or adult about it. In addition, 29 percent of Internet-using children freely give out their home address or other personal information online if asked.

NetSmartz

Information for Parents and Children, at www.netsmartz.org.

The NetSmartz Workshop is an interactive, educational safety resource that teaches kids and teens how to stay safer on the Internet. NetSmartz combines the newest technologies available and the most current information to create high-impact educational activities that are well received by even the most tech-savvy kids. Parents, guardians, educators, and law enforcement also have access to additional resources for learning and teaching about the dangers children may face online. NetSmartz was created by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® (NCMEC) and Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA).

i-SAFE America

Information for Parents and Youth, at <http://www.isafe.org>.

i-SAFE America's mission is to educate and empower youth to safely and responsibly take control of their Internet experience. i-SAFE offers dynamic, standards-based K-12 curriculum free of charge to educate students on how to avoid dangerous or unlawful behavior, as well as community outreach programs to extend Internet safety beyond the classroom.

The i-Parent Campaign as a Potential PTA Program

i-SAFE recognizes that a digital divide exists between parents and their children when it comes to the use of technology. In most cases, the kids know more about the Internet and new technology than their parents. That is why i-SAFE launched the i-PARENT Campaign - a nationwide movement of students, parents, educators and public officials - to inform parents about the dangers their kids face online and offer tips to help protect them.

The i-PARENT Campaign trains students and parent advocates to conduct Parent Nights and provides them with the resources through an i-PARENT Toolkit. You can order a copy of the i-PARENT CD which includes the toolkit and scripted PowerPoint Presentations on the following topics: Introduction to Internet Safety; Eluding Internet Predators, Cyber Bullying Awareness; and Family Cyber Security Basics.