



SAFETY TIPS

TAKE 25: Internet Safety Tips – General Rules

TAKE 25 minutes, and talk to your children about...

- The time of day, length of time, people they may communicate with online, and appropriate areas of the Web for them to visit.
- If they or any of their friends encounter something making them feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused to report it. Assure them it's not their fault and you are there to help, not punish them.
- Thinking before typing, "Is this message rude or hurtful?" If your children are harassed or threatened, tell them not to respond, report it to the CyberTipline® at www.cybertipline.com or 1-800-843-5678 and your Internet service provider, and follow their directions about saving the evidence.
- Keeping their personal information private because people aren't always who they say they are online.
- How posting harmful information about themselves or others could cost them to lose a job offer, school admission offer, and scholarships in the future.

Note: Also make a report to the CyberTipline if anyone online has attempted to meet your child in person, sent inappropriate pictures, or asked for their personal information. Go to www.cybertipline.com or call 1-800-843-5678.

These tips are adapted from **Keeping Kids Safer on the Internet: Tips for Parents and Guardians**. Alexandria, Virginia: National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, 2006. All rights reserved.

1-800-THE-LOST® (1-800-843-5678)
www.missingkids.com

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This project was supported by Grant No. 2005-MC-CX-K024 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® and 1-800-THE-LOST® are registered service marks of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.