

Cyber Safety + Cyberbullying Prevention

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Take
Away
Points

Five Principles of what we need to know and what we need to teach the kids

- Principle #1 – Kids think electronic information is private. They don't understand the permanent and public nature of the Internet.
- Principle #2 – Kids share passwords and usernames freely. They don't understand why it is essential to keep passwords private.
- Principle #3 – Kids feel a compulsive need to stay in touch. They don't understand when texting, instant messaging, & Facebook chatting isn't appropriate.
- Principle #4 – Kids are not born with critical thinking skills about the Internet. They don't understand how to evaluate and distinguish between information sources.
- Principle #5 – Kids tend to cyberbully when they (girls) are "angry" and (boys) are "just joking." They don't understand that when you are upset with someone you don't text, chat or email.

Take-Away Points from the Presentation

I. Establish on-going dialogue with your child

II. Agree to a family technology contract; discuss...

- Appropriate uses of Facebook
 - Respecting others at all times.
 - Texting & messaging are great for regular communication, but should not replace face-to-face private conversations when trying to sort out emotional situations or conflicts.
- Appropriate times for cell phone & Internet use.
- Be consistent; model the habits you wish your children to follow.
 - **Possible suggestion – All cell phones go in a basket when entering the house!**

III. Discuss concept of Privacy vs. Trust/Honor

- Passwords
- Personal information
- Sexually suggestive photographs
- Information posted on the Internet is Public and Permanent

IV. Teach child to evaluate information sources for bias and accuracy and look at information with critical eye.

V. Safety

- Teach your child that if he/she receives a threat to go to see an adult immediately.
- Save the IM or the text messages.
- Monitor Internet & Cell Phone Use
- Establish that **you and only you** "Clears Internet History"
Here are the steps:
Click on Tools; Internet Options; Browsing History; Delete