

INTERNET SAFETY

Information for Elementary Parents

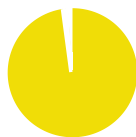
Technology is a huge part of our lives.



95% of children have a mobile device at home.



53% of children own a smartphone by age 11.



95% of parents say their children have internet access.

But there can be dangers.



Nearly half of all teens report being cyberbullied.



53% of children are exposed to pornography by age 13.



40% of 4th-8th graders admit to connecting with a stranger online.



1 in 20 children admit to arranging to meet with a stranger they met online.

Teaching internet safety is an important part of being a parent today. But with new apps and websites coming out so quickly, it can be difficult to keep up. Keep reading for some easy-to-implement internet safety tips.

Keep Your Child Safe Online

Know what your child is doing

Make sure your child knows that you can and will monitor their internet activity. Know what apps your child is using and what sites they are visiting.

- ▶ Social media and chat apps like Snapchat, TikTok, Instagram, and Kik can expose children to adult content, as well as people they don't know.
- ▶ Games like Roblox, Gacha Life, and Minecraft have online components that allow children to interact with strangers.

YouTube Kids (an app with videos for children) is mostly safe, but there's still a chance children can view things that are inappropriate. Monitor your child's YouTube use carefully.

Use parental controls

Use parental controls to block inappropriate content and websites on any device your child uses. Many mobile devices also have settings that require parental permission before downloading any app.

Impose limits

As a family, decide how much screen time is appropriate for your child, and stick to these limits. Put all mobile devices (including your own) away during meals and family times.

Resources

The following websites will provide you with more information on parental controls, as well as tips for monitoring online content.

- ▶ commonsensemedia.org
- ▶ safekids.com
- ▶ internetsafety101.org



For more, watch this quick video.