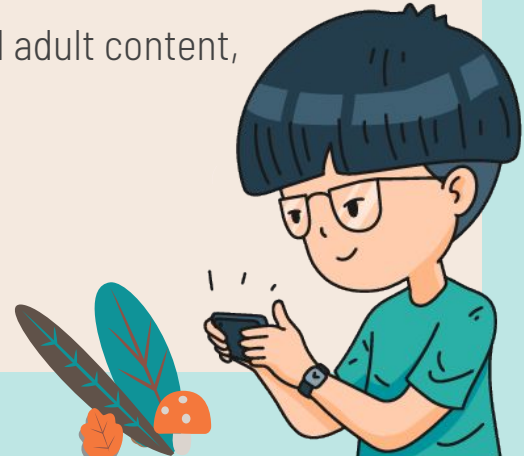


INTERNET SAFETY

When your kids begin socializing online, you may want to talk to them about certain risks:

- **Inappropriate conduct:** The online world can feel anonymous. Kids sometimes forget that they are still accountable for their actions.
- **Inappropriate contact:** Some people online have bad intentions, including bullies, predators, hackers, and scammers.
- **Inappropriate content:** You may be concerned that your kids could find adult content, violence, or hate speech online.

You can reduce these risks by talking to your kids about how they communicate – online and off – and encouraging them to engage in conduct they can be proud of.



TALKING ABOUT INTERNET SAFETY

Talk Early and Often

As soon as your child is using a computer, a cell phone, or any mobile device, it's time to talk to them about online behavior, safety, and security. Use everyday opportunities to talk to your kids about being online.

Create an Honest, Open Environment

Kids look to their parents to help guide them. Be supportive and positive. Listening and taking their feelings into account helps keep conversation afloat. You may not have all the answers, and being honest about that can go a long way.

Communicate Your Values

Be upfront about your values and how they apply in an online context. Communicating your values clearly can help your kids make smarter and more thoughtful decisions when they face tricky situations.

Be Patient

Resist the urge to rush through conversations with your kids. Most kids need to hear information repeated, in small doses, for it to sink in. If you keep talking with your kids, your patience and persistence will pay off in the long run. Work hard to keep the lines of communication open, even if you learn your kid has done something online you find inappropriate.