

children

The promise
of tomorrow ...



Because tomorrow
needs to start today.

Some things to keep in mind:

- 30% of teens have considered meeting someone that they've only talked to online.
- 14% have actually met a person face-to-face that they've only spoken to over the Internet.
- When teens receive messages online from someone they don't know, 40% reported that they'll usually reply and chat with that person.
- 33% of 13-17 year-olds reported that their parents know "very little" or "nothing" about what they do on the Internet.

Teen Internet Safety Survey, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and Cox Communications, 2006.

Resources for parents:

- www.netsmartz.org
- www.isafe.org
- www.getnetwise.org
- www.safekids.com
- www.safeteens.com
- The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
 - www.missingkids.com
 - 24-hour Hotline: 1-800-THE-LOST
- The Children's Partnership
 - www.childrenspartnership.org
- CyberSmart!
 - www.cybersmart.org
- The Office for Victims of Crime
 - www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/
- Internet Content Rating Association
 - www.icra.org
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service
 - www.ncjrs.org

For questions or more information please contact:



741 Valley Street
Dayton, Ohio 45404
Phone: 937-512-1670
Fax : 937-512-1675
www.thecarehouse.org
www.childrensdayton.org

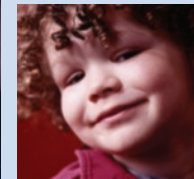
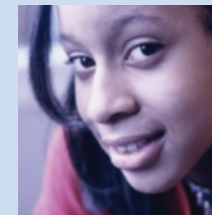


NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
ALLIANCE®

ACCREDITED
MEMBER

Do you know where your kids have been today ...

Are you sure?



741 Valley Street
Dayton, Ohio 45404
937-512-1670

Tips for parents

- 1** Get informed about computers and the Internet. Visit the resources on the back of this brochure to find additional information on Internet safety.
- 2** Keep the computer in an open area of your home—NOT your child's bedroom.
- 3** Establish rules for Internet use.
- 4** Know who your children are exchanging emails with and only let them use chat areas when you can supervise.
- 5** Talk to your children about never meeting in person with someone they meet online. Tell your children never to respond to offensive or dangerous emails or chats.
- 6** Be aware of any other computers your child may be using.
- 7** Look into safeguarding programs or options your online service provider might offer. These may include monitoring or filtering capabilities. Visit the resources section on www.netismartz.org for information on filtering or blocking software.
- 8** Spend time talking and “surfing” the Internet with your child. Visit their favorite sites. Talk about the things that you and your child find that way he/she is more likely to tell you if something inappropriate occurs while they are online.
- 9** Don't list your child's email or cell phone number in any directory—i.e. sports' teams, youth groups. Your email and phone number are sufficient for contact purposes.

Tips for children

- 1** Choose a screen name that doesn't identify you as a young male or female.
- 2** Don't share your password with anyone except your parents. Not even your best friend.
- 3** Don't give out personal information such as your name, age, address, phone number, school, or parent names.
- 4** Do not respond to: Unwanted, mean, offensive or threatening email or instant messages.
- 5** Don't open email from someone you don't know.
- 6** Don't sign up for “free” things – ask your parents for help.
- 7** Don't send pictures of yourself (including web cams) to someone you don't know.
- 8** Never agree to meet someone you have “met” on the Internet. Remember: People online may or may not be who they say they are.
- 9** Promise to tell an adult if you ever feel uncomfortable while online.

What you need to know about your child's cell phone

What is “Sexting?”

Teenagers' habit of distributing nude self-portraits electronically - often called “sexting” if it's done by cell phone.

Does my child have access to do this?

If your child or teen has a cell phone that is able to take photos, they have access to do this. Most cell phones now have the capability to take a picture. Even if a child does not have a texting package through their phone service, a text message and/or picture message still can be sent and received.

What's the big deal?

Most parents, children, and teens do not realize the consequences of sending nude photos on a cell phone. Once a photo is sent, it can be distributed by the receiver to anyone and may end up with someone who it was not intended for. Some prosecutors have begun charging teens who send and receive such images with child pornography and other serious felonies.

Tips to Prevent Sexting

From NetSmartz.org

- **THINK ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES** of taking, sending, or forwarding a sexual picture of someone underage, even if it's of you. You could get kicked off of sports teams, face humiliation, lose educational opportunities, and even get in trouble with the law.
- **NEVER TAKE** images of yourself that you wouldn't want everyone—your classmates, your teachers, your family, or your employers—to see.
- **BEFORE HITTING SEND**, remember that you can't control where this image may travel. What you send to a boyfriend or girlfriend could easily end up with their friends, and their friends, and their friends...
- **IF YOU FORWARD** a sexual picture of someone underage, you are as responsible for this image as the original sender. You could face child pornography charges, go to jail, and have to register as a sex offender.
- **REPORT** any nude pictures you receive on your cell phone to an adult you trust. Do not delete the message. Instead, get your parents or guardians, teachers, and school counselors involved immediately.