


Are you Web aware?

A checklist for parents



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Are you involved in your kids' online activities? Do you know what they are doing and who they are talking to when they are on the Internet?

Does your family have a set of rules or an agreement for appropriate Internet use?

Do your kids know to ask permission before submitting any personal information online? This includes: when using e-mail, chat rooms or instant messaging, filling out registration forms and personal profiles, and entering online contests.

Do you try to not be too critical of your kids' activities on the Net and use their Internet experiences as an opportunity to discuss inappropriate content, trust and responsibility?

Do you make Internet use a family activity by guiding your kids to good sites and teaching them how to do safe, effective searches?

Have you taught your kids not to believe everything they read online and to check online information with an adult or with another source?

If your child accesses the Internet from school or your local library, are you familiar with their acceptable use policies?

Do you look at the privacy policies on the commercial Web sites your kids visit to check what kind of personal information is gathered and if it may be sold to another party?

To make your monitoring job easier, have you placed your connected computer in a well-used public area of your house, such as a family room or kitchen?

If your child has her/his own Web site, have you checked to make sure it doesn't contain personal information that will identify her or him?

Have you talked to your kids about responsible online behaviour? Do they understand that stealing from Web sites, downloading pirated software, making online threats and hacking are illegal activities?