



The Technology Minute

Online Safety and Security

Being safe online is more important than ever - especially if you have children.

Below are some helpful tips and things to think about.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, give us a call at 223-9200

Things you can do to help:

- ✓ Talk to your child about the online sites that they visit and play on.
- ✓ Talk to your child about protecting their identity when online. Tell them not to give out personal information like full name, address, phone number, social security number, credit card numbers, etc. Identity Theft is a problem these days in this age of technology.
- ✓ Talk to your child about how what is posted online can be seen by people all over the world.
- ✓ Talk to your child and set up a plan on what should be done if they are cyber bullied.
- ✓ Talk to your child about the dangers of putting up pictures of themselves, families, and friends on unprotected websites.
- ✓ Talk to your child about not opening emails from people they do not know.
- ✓ Talk about the importance of setting up and using passwords to protect websites or online blogs that your child creates.
- ✓ Children love to show what they can do on a computer. Ask them to help you get a web page started, start an online blog, or set up an email account.

Regarding School Work

Check with your child's school librarian and/or teachers about "safe" online websites that students should use for research or homework help. You can have your child fill out a web evaluation worksheet for each website that visit to make sure the information and site is research worthy. For more information visit:

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/schrockguide/eval.html>