Internet Safety

Whether you are a child or adult, there are unbiased predators and potentially inappropriate content that can be very harmful to unsuspecting users.

Don't make it easy to regret your online experience.

Telephone or Cell number...

Home Address...

Account Passwords...

Sharing photos...
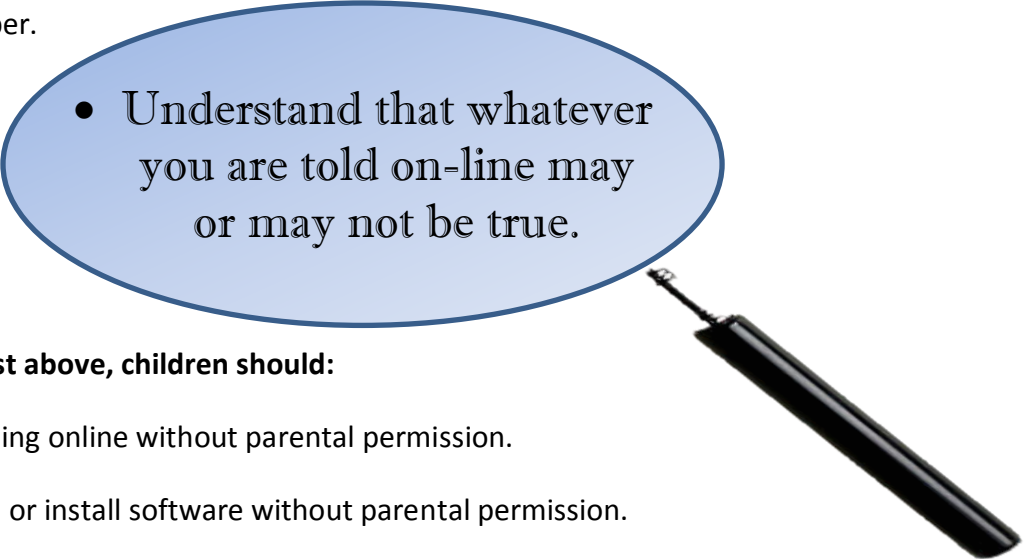
Emails from unknown senders...

Revealing personal information and images can put user's privacy and safety at risk. Don't let down your first line of defense... which is you!

Here are some tips to keep in mind!

Everyone should:

- Remember to logout of the accounts you've accessed before leaving the terminal, even if it's a home computer.

- Never open an attachment from someone you don't know. No matter how tempting! EX: (Subject Line: Free Vacation!)

- Never share your password with anyone.

- Never upload (post) pictures of yourself onto the Internet or on-line service to people you do not personally know and NEVER upload explicit photos.

- Never post vacation plans online. EX: (Status: Leaving tomorrow for a 7 day cruise!)

- Never download pictures from an unknown source, as there is a good chance there could be sexually explicit images.

- Never respond to messages or bulletin board postings that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or harassing.

- Never send money or account information to a non-validated source.

- Make sure intended web address is correct.

- Never give out identifying information such as your name, home address, school name, or telephone number.

- Understand that whatever you are told on-line may or may not be true.

In addition to the list above, children should:

- Never buy anything online without parental permission.

- Never download or install software without parental permission.

- Print out and report mean or insulting messages to your parents or to a teacher at school.

- Never use imagines or messages that are hurtful or insulting to others.

- Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you met on- line. NO MATTER WHAT!

Parents should:

- Keep the computer in a high-traffic area of your home.

- Remember that Internet technology can be mobile, so make sure to monitor cell phones, gaming devices, and laptops.

- Establish clear limits for which online sites children may visit and for how long.

- Create a favorites folder for sites your children are allowed to visit.

- Know who is connecting with your children online and set rules for social networking, instant messaging, e-mailing, online gaming, and using webcams.

- Periodically check your child's postings and internet history.

- Maintain an open dialogue with your children about their internet activities and online safety.

- In addition to yourself, identify other safe people to talk with about uncomfortable or dangerous internet incidents.

To find out the latest information on cyber safety or to report cyber incidents visit:

Federal Bureau of Investigation
http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/cyber/cyber

U.S. Department of Justice
http://www.justice.gov/criminal/cybercrime/reporting.html

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
http://www.dhs.gov/topic/cybersecurity