Online Safety Resources

Tips for Using the World Wide Web

It is important to remember that the internet is made up of web pages and sites created by a variety of different people and organizations. No one person or group of people is responsible for the content.

Make sure that you are always cautious about believing what you read.

Some tips:
- Never disclose personal information,
- Don't send anything that you wouldn't want passed on,
- Remember that everyone you speak to on the internet is a real person, and just like real people, some are friends and some are strangers. A stranger is just as dangerous on the internet as they are in the real world.

Use the internet together, in order to learn about the online world together!

Internet 101: http://www.internet101.ca/

This is a great Canadian site created to educate on net safety. Includes: videos for presentations, a handbook, Internet Safety tips (html and pdf), and an internet use agreement for parents and their children. It also provides some information on serious problems like cyberbullying and online scams.

Media Awareness Network: http://www.media-awareness.ca

"Resources and support for everyone interested in media and information literacy for young people."

Includes excellent sections on a variety of issues that impact young people, like cyber-bullying, media stereotyping, violence in the media and information privacy. Has some online resources, and presentations are available for purchase .

Get Netwise: You're One Click Away: http://www.getnetwise.org/

This informative website is aimed at parents who are worried about the children's safety online. Includes tools and resources for learning about the risks to safety and privacy online, and how to parents can work with their children and learn together.

Be Web Aware: http://www.bewebaware.ca

This site is designed in an informative and easy to navigate manner.
Resources include: Safety Tips by age (groups from 2-17), pages that outline risks, guides for online searching, Internet 101, and technological tools.

There is also a list of kid friendly sites.

Children's BBC: http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/topics/stay-safe

This is a great website that can be used by kids, parents and others to learn more about safety while chatting online.

Resources include:
- Information on different types of online communities,
- Safety tips for teens, both girls and boys,
- A glossary, booklists, and teaching packs.
- Also links to related websites, and safe places for kids to chat.
- Games that test internet safety
- Testimonials from teens that experienced cyberbullying

ALA: Libraries and the Internet Toolkit:
http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/iftoolkits/litoolkit/default.cfm

This resource offers information for libraries. Like: forming Internet policies, the Children's Internet Protection Act, filters and other facts and tips.
And for parents there are tips and links to resources.

KINSA: Kids Internet Safety Alliance: http://www.kinsa.net/

This Toronto based charitable organization that is dedicated to researching, educating and acts as spokespeople for children's online safety. The website is aimed at parents and educators. The resources include: Survey results, tips, videos, links, resources to download (ex. a comic book) and fundraising for their various initiatives.