



## Online Safety Tips for Families

☀ Don't talk to strangers! The same rules apply Online--never give personal information through an Online Profile such as your name, address, school name or city.

☀ Explain to children that if they've gone somewhere online that feels wrong or unsafe (chat rooms, websites, etc.), LEAVE!

☀ Keep electronic devices in a common area of the house.

☀ Set time limits for electronics use. The lengths of time spent on the electronic devices as well as the time of day are factors to consider.

☀ Take advantage of blocking/filtering programs, but remember every computer may not have these programs. Nothing is more effective than parental supervision, involvement and communication!

If they find something inappropriate: Minimize(the screen) and Tell!

☀ Spend time online with children and familiarize yourself with the services/sites/apps they are interested in. Communicate with your child what you consider appropriate material.

☀ Monitor children's e-mail, social media and other online accounts. Do not allow children to send pictures to or retrieve pictures from anyone they don't know.

☀ Teach children to tell an adult if they receive any unusual messages, if they are asked personal information, or if an online friend wants to arrange a meeting.

☀ Tell children never to respond to rude or offensive messages. If children receive an inappropriate e-mail, teach them to end the communication and

contact a trusted adult. Minimize(the screen) and Tell!

☀ REPORT, REPORT, REPORT! Inappropriate Internet activity should be reported to your local law enforcement agency and/or to the national reporting site, [www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com)

☀ Never allow a face-to-face meeting with a "friend" from the Internet without accompanying your child in a public spot.

☀ Have your child earn their "Internet License" by exhibiting correct Internet behaviors with parental supervision. Keep a signed "Pledge" by the computer outlining correct Internet behaviors discussed.

