cyber smart GUIDE

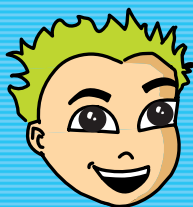## Help your kids make the most of the Internet – safely!

How can I help my child get the best out of the Net?

How can I find things online?

What risks should I know about, and how do I protect my child on the Net?

How do I make a complaint about offensive material?

Where can I find great sites for kids?

If you would like to talk to us in your own language, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and they will contact us for you.

ITALIAN
Se desiderate parlare con noi in italiano, siete pregati di chiamare il servizio d'interpretariato telefonico (Telephone Interpreter Service) al numero 131 450 e loro ci contatteranno per voi.

VIETNAMESE
Nếu quý vị muốn nói chuyện với chúng tôi bằng tiếng Việt, xin điện thoại đến Dịch vụ Thông dịch qua Điện thoại (TIS) ở số 131 450 và họ sẽ giúp quý vị liên lạc chúng tôi.

GREEK
Αν θέλετε να μας μιλήσετε στη γλώσσα σας, παρακαλείστε να τηλεφωνήσετε στην Τηλεφωνική Υπηρεσία Διερμηνέων στο 131 450 και να ζητήσετε να επικοινωνήσουν μαζί μας εκ μέρους σας.

ARABIC
إذا كنت تودّ التحدث إلينا بلغتك، فيرجى الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الشفهية والخطية على الرقم 131 450 حيث يقوم مترجم من الخدمة بالاتصال بنا والتحدث إلينا نيابةً عنك.
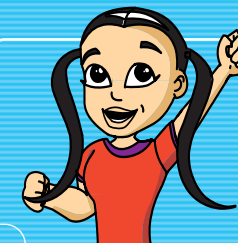
CHINESE
如果您希望用您的語言和我們傾談，請致電 131 450 電話傳譯員服務 (Telephone Interpreter Service)，他們會替您和我們聯絡。

For more information, contact the Australian Broadcasting Authority
Telephone: (02) 9334 7700
or 1800 226 667
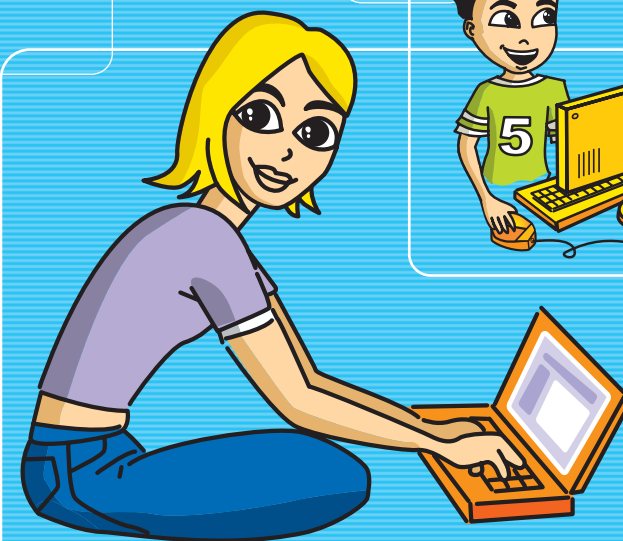Fax: (02) 9334 7799
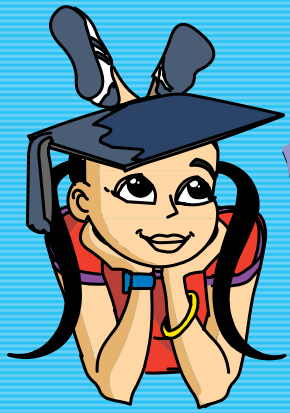Email: online@aba.gov.au

Australian Broadcasting Authority

www.cybersmartkids.com.au
Smart Net surfing for kids and their grown ups

cybersmart
KIDS ONLINE
smart Net surfing for kids and their grown ups

Australian Broadcasting Authority

Cybersmart KIDS ONLINE

smart Net surfing for kids and their grown ups

Children need parents and family members to help them become Cybersmart!

Help your kids to make smart choices about who and what they find online.

Spend time online with your kids

The Internet can be a fun family activity – check out good sites with your kids! Compile a 'favourites' list, which you can visit again and again.

Help your kids use the Internet as an effective research tool

Learn about handy homework tips for kids and also good searching ideas.

Teach children that information on the Internet is not always reliable

If it sounds too good to be true it probably is!

Teach your children 'netiquette'

Encourage them to treat others online in the same way they should in real life.

Chat Safely! Be aware of online 'stranger danger'

Chatting on the 'Net is very popular among young people, particularly young teenagers. It can be a great way to meet and talk with people across borders, time zones and backgrounds.

However, a lot of real world risks also exist online, especially in chat rooms. Most people online are friendly and polite, but some can be unfriendly and rude. A small number are exploitative and predatory, and there have been instances of paedophiles contacting children in chat rooms and by email.

Set Rules

Make sure your children know what information they can give out and where they can go on the 'Net. Limit time in chat rooms, particularly for younger children. Encourage the use of chat rooms that are moderated (that is, where messages are screened by an adult before they are made public).

Be Involved

Put the Internet computer in a public area of the home. Areas like the living room are ideal, rather than a child's bedroom.

Talk to your children about their experiences online – the good and the bad. Get to know which chat rooms they are visiting and who they are chatting with.

Let them know it's OK to tell you if they come across something that worries them. (It doesn't mean that they're going to get into trouble.)

If your child wants to meet someone they have met online you should check the person out to see that they are who they say they are. Talk to them and their parents by 'phone first. And you should accompany your child to the meeting.

Teach your kids ways of dealing with disturbing material

Explain that they should not respond if someone says something inappropriate, and they should immediately leave any site if they feel uncomfortable.

Encourage them to tell you if anyone says something that makes them feel uncomfortable or scared.

Remember!
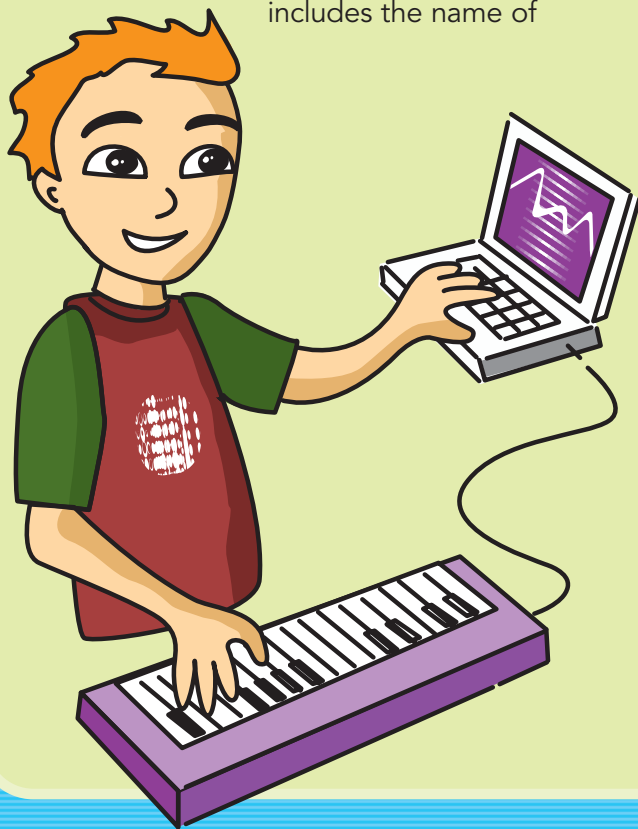The best protection is parental supervision and guidance!

ChatSmart

Kids: These tips are for you!

Be careful

Meeting people online might be fun, but remember that the people you meet online may not be who they say they are. Someone claiming to be a 12 year old girl could really be a 40 year old man.

Check with your parents/carer first

Ask your Mum or Dad or carer before you give out your name, 'phone number or address or any other personal details. This includes the name of your school, your photo, and any personal information about your friends and family. Never post such information in a chat room or somewhere lots of other people might see it.

Always keep your password a secret.

Take someone with you

If you want to meet someone you have so far only met in a chat room ask one of your parents or another adult to go with you. Always meet in a popular public place, preferably during the day.

Don't stay/ Don't respond

If someone in a chat room posts offensive pictures or says something rude or scary, or if you are sent these in an email, don't respond and do leave the chat room straight away.

Tell

If you see upsetting language, nasty pictures or something scary tell your parent or another adult you trust.
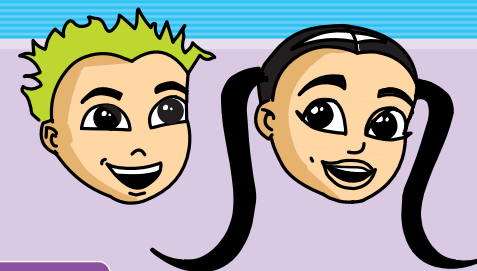
SPAM

Spam is email from an individual or organisation who you don't know or have not previously dealt with. Spam can be very annoying and may contain offensive or disturbing material.

To reduce the problems caused by spam you should:

- safeguard your email address;
- don't respond to unsolicited email;
- use a filter;
- check your ISP's web site for information about managing spam.

For more information about how to deal with spam go to www.cybersmartkids.com.au/ parents/ risks.html, or download the brochure from www.aba.gov.au/internet/index.htm

If you receive spam that advertises or promotes content that you believe may be offensive or illegal, you can complain to the ABA about that content. Go to **www.aba.gov.au/hotline** to find our online complaints form.

Filters

Filter software is a useful tool for managing children's access to the 'Net, when used alongside active supervision by parents and setting household 'Net-use rules.

Different filters work in different ways, and some are better than others at blocking particular types of content.

White List Filters

These filters allow the user to access only a selected number of sites. They are the most effective in blocking access to offensive and harmful material.

But they also block a lot of material that may be innocuous.

Such filters are likely to be appropriate for younger (primary school age) children, where protection from unsuitable material may be more important than having access to a wider range of content.

Black List Filters

These prevent the user from accessing certain listed sites. They provide access to a wider range of content, but may still allow access to some unsuitable material. Such filters are likely to suit families with older children, where having access to a wide range of content is an important consideration.

Multiple User Filters

These products allow different levels of filtering for different users. They may be useful where there are children of different ages in the family.

Monitoring filters

These keep a record of visited sites, and can be useful for checking the sites your children are visiting on the 'Net.

Points to remember!

To help ensure your filter is as effective as possible, consider installing a product that is updated automatically when you connect to the 'Net. Alternately, your ISP may offer a filter that they administer and update for you.

Some filters work only with WWW content, others can be used with a wider range of applications such as email or chat. Look for one which meets your particular needs.

Products you install yourself might be easier to configure to your own requirements. However, they may also be more easily circumvented than a filter that your ISP administers.

More information

The ABA has registered a code of practice for ISPs. This requires them to provide each subscriber with one of the filters listed in the code. Some ISPs offer this service free of charge, while others charge a fee. See your ISP's home page for details of the product they offer.

For more information about how filters work see www.cybersmartkids.com.au/parents/filters/

The ABA has conducted an evaluation of some filter products. The survey report can be found at www.aba.gov.au/internet/research/filtering/index.htm

Remember! A filter can be only partly effective, and is not a substitute for parental supervision.