Cyber Safety

Handout

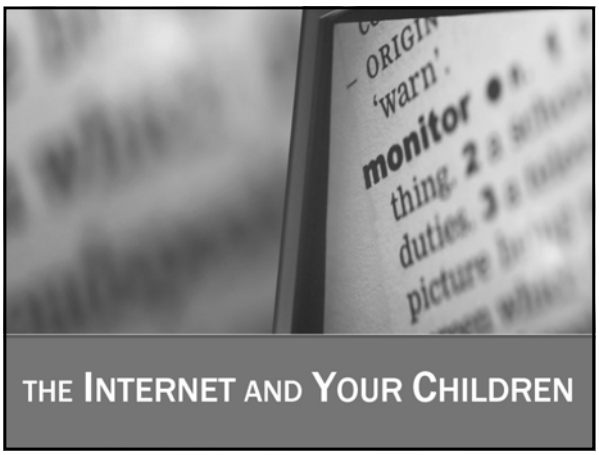
April 15, 2009

Presented By:
George E Simms III

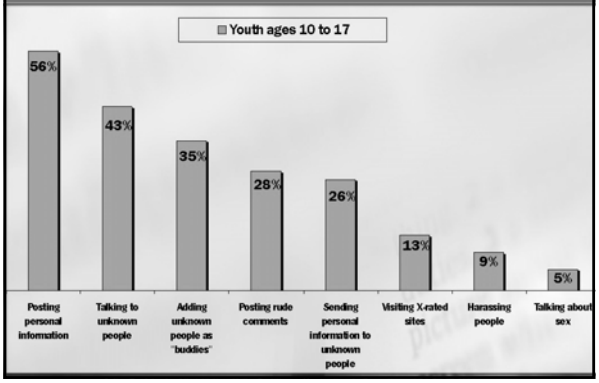
Sponsored by NIH Child Care Board & ORS/Division of Amenities and Transportation Services.

INTERNET SAFETY:
PARENTS & GUARDIANS | COMMUNITIES

NetSmartz Workshop
The NetSmartz ® Workshop is a program of National Center for Missing & Exploited Children®
EDUCATE
Learn about the issues
ENGAGE
Use NetSmartz to enhance your children's abilities to recognize and avoid potential dangers
EMPOWER
Give your children the confidence to make safer choices online and in the real world


THE INTERNET AND YOUR CHILDREN

Risky Online Behaviors



Your Child's Online Life

Online Predators

- Predators can access the same websites as your children
- Predators are

- Male or female
- Any age
- Any profession
- Experts at "grooming" methods

Online Enticement and "Grooming"

- To entice your children, predators
  - Offer attention and affection
  - Send money and gifts
  - Persuade them to keep the relationship secret
  - Talk about inappropriate and sexual topics
  - Send sexually explicit images
  - Ask to meet in person
  - Are patient when developing a relationship

Encourage Reporting

- **1 in 25** youth online encountered an aggressive sexual solicitation or approach where the solicitor tried to meet offline
- Help youth overcome victimization by reporting online solicitation to your local law-enforcement agency and the CyberTipline

1 in 25

Revealing Too Much

- Personal information that can reveal your identity and location

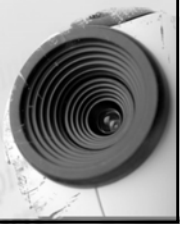
  Name Age Birthday Address
  Phone Number Schedule School
- Photos and videos should never be posted online if they show
  - Backgrounds that reveal identifying information
  - Sexually provocative poses
  - Too much skin
  - Inappropriate or illegal activity

E-mail, IM, and Chatrooms

- Instant messaging is most popular
- Screennames and e-mail addresses should be chosen wisely
- Online identities are easily created
- Who are your children communicating with?

Webcams

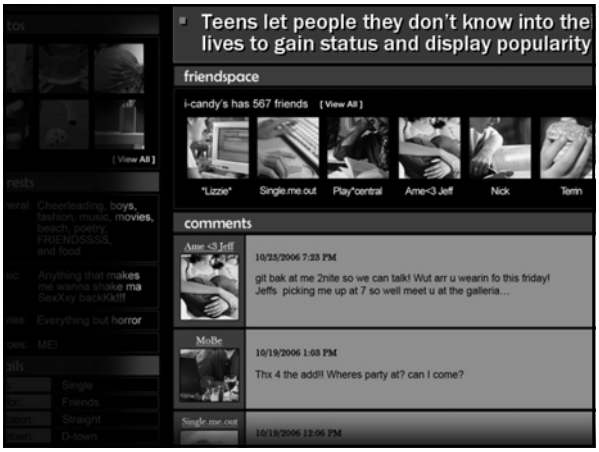
- Children should
  - Check their surroundings for revealing information
  - Remember that videos can be saved, accessed, and altered
- Webcams can be used for
  - Manipulation and exploitation
  - Self-production of child pornography



What is Social Networking?

myspace.com	facebook.com
friendster.com	xanga.com
bebo.com	livejournal.com
clubpenguin.com	neopets.com

MyLife.com
Home | Browse | Search | Invite | Mail | Blog | Favorites | Group | Events
i-candy
"i AM the scene"
Female
15 years old
Dallas, Texas
USA
Last Login:
Today
Contact
Send Message
Forward to Friend
Add to Friends
Add to Favorites
Instant Message
Block User
Add to Group
Rank User
URL
http://www.MyLife.com/i-candy
This page is set to private.
Information can be inadvertently revealed in pictures
Sexually provocative pictures can be used for exploitation


Teens let people they don't know into their lives to gain status and display popularity
friendspace
i-candy's has 567 friends [View All]
"Lizzie"
Single.me.out
Play*central
Ame<3 Jeff
Nick
Terin
comments
Ame <3 Jeff
10/25/2006 7:23 PM
git bak at me 2nite so we can talk! Wut arr u wearin fo this friday! Jeffs picking me up at 7 so well meet u at the galleria…
MoBe
10/19/2006 1:03 PM
Thx 4 the add!! Wheres party at? can I come?
Single.me.out
10/19/2006 12:06 PM

Blogging
life sux 2 no end and these are the reasons whYYYYYYY……
1) I'm FAT. im in a hard place ta describe – I feel LOST but I have ppl around me. I need 2 pull myself 2gether so ppl stop askin me if I've eaten or not. My bf keeps saying not 2 get any thinner yet that's exactly wut im planning… that's all I have left 2 do.
2) I can't trust my boyfriend because he looks at other girlz. He's still at my old skool, etc."
Predators can use vulnerabilities and insecurities to "groom" children into a face-to-face meeting
3:49 PM - 0 Comments - 0 Kudos - Add Comment

Real-Life Consequences

If it is on the Internet, IT IS NOT PRIVATE.

Safer Social Networking

- Make your own profile and explore the site
- Learn the site's safety features
- Have children use privacy settings
- Examine their list of friends and browse their friends' pages

What Is Cyberbullying?

- Spreading rumors and gossip
- Posting pictures without consent

- Stealing passwords to assume someone's identity
- Harassing or threatening with offensive language

Cyberbullying Matters

- 32% of teens report being harassed or bullied online
- The incidence is higher among girls 15- to 17-years old at 41%

What to Do

- Children who are cyberbullied should
  - Not respond to harassing messages
  - Save the evidence
  - Set up new accounts

If you feel like your child is in immediate danger, contact your local law-enforcement agency.

Online Gaming

- Children connect with users all over the world
- Voice-enabled chat allows users to hear and speak to each other
- Cyberbullying is common
- Check the ratings of your children's games

Exposure to Inappropriate Material

- Pornography
- Hateful, racist, and violent content
- Details of illegal activity
  - Where to get drugs
  - How to make drugs and explosives
  - Underage drinking
  - Lock-picking
  - Gambling websites

File-sharing

- Download and share media with P2P

Music Movies Videos Photos Documents Software

- It's illegal to share copyrighted materials without permission
- It's easy to unknowingly download or distribute viruses and illegal material

File-sharing Programs

File-sharing using

Spyware, Spam, and Scams

- Check the legitimacy of a website
- Only download from trustworthy sources
- Don't give information to soliciting sites and e-mails
- If an offer seems too good to be true, it usually is
- Don't fall for phishing scams

What You Can Do

NetSmartz Rules for Online Safety

- Keep your identity private
- Never respond to messages that make you feel uncomfortable
- Never meet offline without asking your parent or guardian's permission
- Respect other people online

Cell Phones

- Set guidelines for cell phone use
- Teach children
  - Never to post their cell phone number online
  - Not to respond to harassing texts
  - Sending explicit images of themselves puts them at risk for exploitation and prosecution

Set Your Own Rules

- Establish rules for Internet use
  - What sites can your child visit?
  - Who can they talk to?
  - How much time can they spend online?
- Keep the computer in a common room (not in secluded areas like a bedroom or basement)

Safeguard

- Consider safeguarding options
  - Filtering applications restrict access to inappropriate material
  - Monitoring software records
    - websites visited
    - chat conversations
    - other content

Communicate

- Discuss the importance of telling you or a trusted adult if anything ever makes your child feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused while online
- Communicate
- Prepare yourself beforehand
- Be open with your children and encourage them to confide in you

RESOURCES

NetSmartz® Workshop

EDUCATE. ENGAGE. EMPOWER.

- Visit our websites
  - http://www.NetSmartz.org
  - http://www.CyberTipline.org
  - http://www.NetSmartz411.org
- E-mail us at NetSmartz_contact@ncmec.org
- Call 1-800-THE-LOST

NetSmartz Workshop
EDUCATE. ENGAGE. EMPOWER.
ENGAGE
EDUCATE
EMPOWER
Thank You!

Internet Chat Abbreviations

A/S/L?	Age, Sex, Location?
BRB	Be right back
CYA	See ya
F2F	Face to face
IDKY	I don't know you
IM	Instant message
LMIRL	Let's meet in real life
NP	Nosy parents
OLL	Online love
P911	My parents are coming!
PIR	Parent in room
POS	Parent over shoulder
RLF	Real life friend
SN	Screen name
TAW	Teachers are watching
TTYL	Talk to you later
WYRN	What's your real name?

For further abbreviations go to **www.noslang.com** or **netzsmart411.org**

Resources

NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN (NCMEC)

Founded in 1984, NCMEC's mission is to help prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation; help find missing children; and assist victims of child abduction and sexual exploitation, their families, and the professionals who serve them. Among its many other services, NCMEC operates a CyberTipline that the public may use to report Internet-related child sexual exploitation.

missingkids.com
cybertipline.com

NETSMARTZ411

NetSmartz411 is a parent and guardian's online resource for learning about Internet safety, computers and the Web that can answer all questions about the online world.

netsmartz411.org

MARYLAND SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

Search for any registered sex offender by name or zip code. Also provides the criteria for each offender classification as well as the relevant laws.

dpscs.state.md.us

Who To Contact

MONTGOMERY COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN/SEX OFFENDER UNIT
240-777-7300

montgomerycountymd.gov/sao

Please contact us if you would like a member of our Internet Crimes Against Children/ Sex Offender Unit to speak to your school or community group about Internet safety.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE
240-773-5400

NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN
CYBER TIPLINE
1-800-843-5678

cybertipline.com

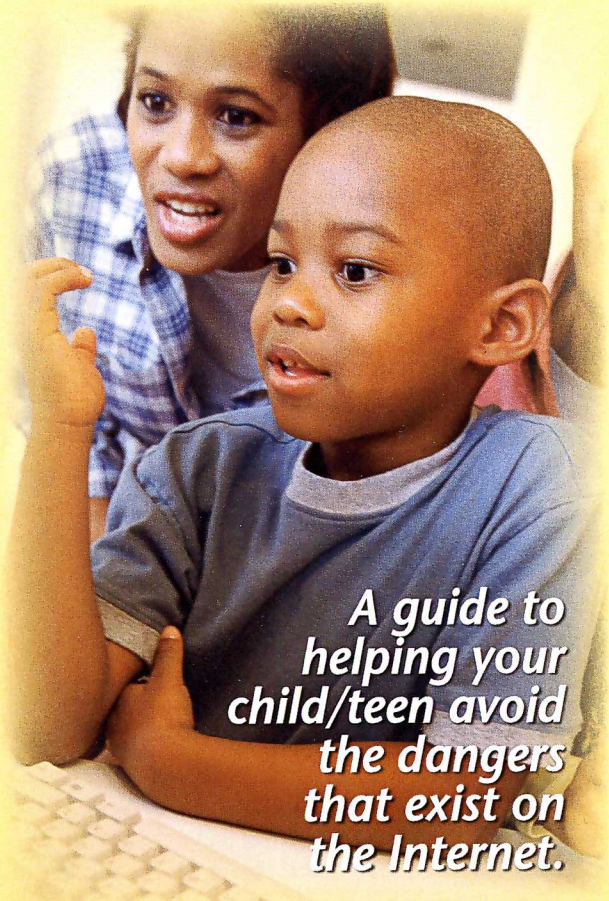
CYBERSAFETY PROJECT
A joint project with Montgomery County's State's Attorney's Office, Public Schools, and Police Department

CyberSafety@mcpsmd.org

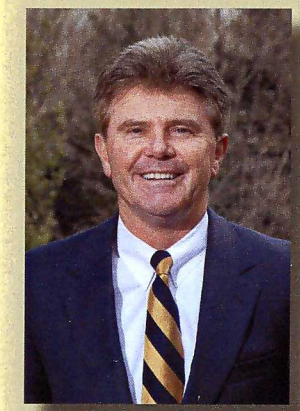
Montgomery County, Maryland
OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY
Judicial Center
50 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850
240-777-7300
montgomerycountymd.gov

Montgomery County, Maryland
Office of the State's Attorney
JOHN J. McCARTHY
State's Attorney

Internet Crimes Against Children



A guide to helping your child/teen avoid the dangers that exist on the Internet.



JOHN J. McCARTHY
State's Attorney for
Montgomery County

The safety of children in our community is one of my main concerns as State's Attorney. While the growth of the Internet provides great opportunities for learning, it also presents risks to young people of sexual solicitation and other dangerous activities.

To combat these dangers, I developed the Internet Crimes Against Children/ Sex Offender Unit. This unit handles the prosecutions of child pornography cases, sexual solicitations over the Internet and sexual offenders who have not registered as required by law. Additionally, this unit works to educate parents and children about Internet safety.

The Internet can be a wonderful resource, but we must work together to protect children from those who would use the Internet to prey on them. My office pledges to aggressively prosecute Internet predators as well as to work with the community to ensure that parents and schools have the information needed to protect our most precious resource ~ our children.

JOHN J. McCARTHY
State's Attorney for
Montgomery County, Maryland

Tips for Parents

- Talk to your kids about their Internet use.
- Be sure to put your computer in an area that you can monitor, and periodically review your child's Internet use.
- Consider rating, blocking, monitoring and filtering applications for your computer.
- Set reasonable rules regarding the time of day, length of time, people with whom they may communicate, and appropriate areas for them to visit when online. Make sure these rules apply to portable devices, such as cell phones and laptops.
- Encourage your kids to go to you, or a trusted adult, when they see anything that bothers them.
- Teach your children never to give out personal information or to arrange to meet in person with someone they have met online without first checking with a trusted adult.
- Report any predator behavior to the authorities.

Tips for Students

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

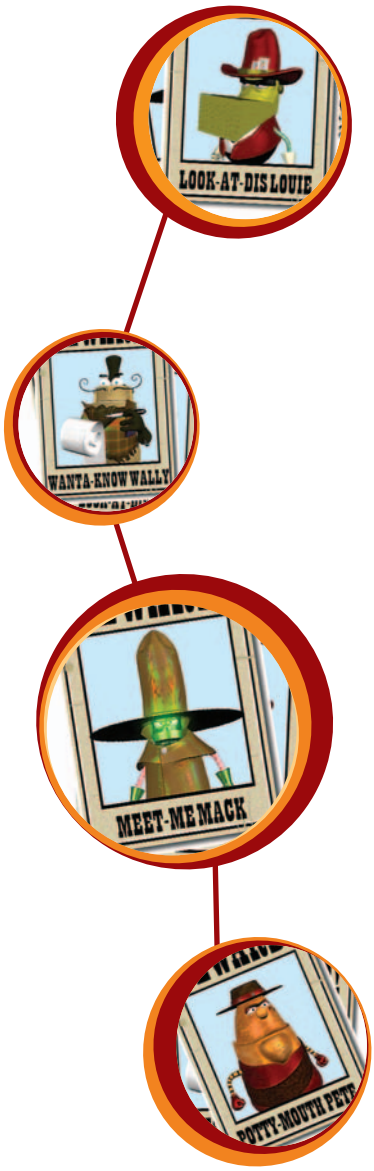
- Turn off the computer monitor right away and tell a trusted adult about anything that makes you scared, uncomfortable, or confused.
- Never share personal information without your parent's or guardian's permission.
- Never meet in person with anyone you have first "met" online.
- Do not use rude or mean language on the Internet, and do not respond to any messages that are mean or rude.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

- Talk with your parents or guardians about their expectations and ground rules for going online.
- Keep all aspects of your identity private.
- Never respond to any online communication that makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Never meet in person with anyone you have first "met" online without discussing it with a trusted adult.
- Respect other people's rights while online.

Teach your child about Internet safety.

Internet Safety Pledge for Grades K-2



1. I will turn off my computer monitor right away and tell a trusted adult if anything makes me feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused.

2. I will tell my parents or guardian if anyone online asks me my name, my address, my telephone number, or the name and location of my school.

3. I will tell my parents or guardian if anyone online asks to meet me in person.

4. I will not use rude or mean language on the Internet.

Signed _____

Signed _____

www.NetSmartzKids.org

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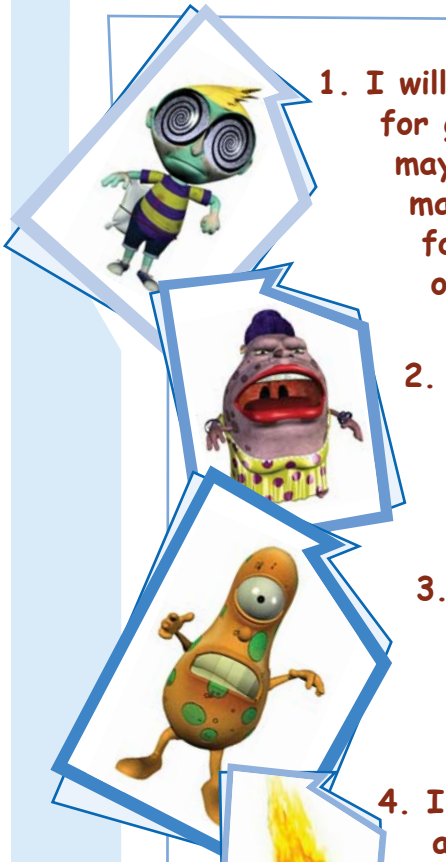
NetSmartz®

Internet Safety Pledge for Grades 3–6



1. I will talk with my parents or guardian so that we can set up rules for going online. The rules will include the time of day that I may be online, the length of time I may be online, whom I may communicate with while online, and appropriate areas for me to visit while online. I will not break these rules or access other areas without their permission.

2. I will tell a trusted adult if I come across anything that makes me feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused. I will not download anything from anyone without permission from my parents or guardian.

3. I will never share personal information such as my address, my telephone number, my parents' or guardian's work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents' or guardian's permission.

4. I will never respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused. If I do get a message like that, I will tell a trusted adult right away so that he or she can contact the online service. And I will not send those kinds of messages.

5. I will never meet in person with anyone I have first "met" online without checking with my parents or guardian. If my parents or guardian agrees to the meeting, it will be in a public place and my parents or guardian must come along.

Signed _____

Signed _____

www.NetSmartzKids.org

Adapted from "My Rules for Online Safety" in *Child Safety on the Information Highway* by Lawrence J. Magid.
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NetSmartz®

INTERNET SAFETY PLEDGE

for Middle & High School

I WILL TALK WITH MY PARENTS OR GUARDIAN ABOUT THEIR EXPECTATIONS AND GROUND RULES FOR GOING ONLINE

I will talk with my parents or guardian so that we can set up rules for going online. The rules will include the time of day that I may be online, the length of time I may be online, whom I may communicate with while online, and appropriate areas for me to visit while online. I will not break these rules or access other areas without their permission.

I will never download anything from anyone I don't know. In addition to offensive content, spam or junk E-mail may contain viruses that can damage my computer.

I WILL KEEP MY IDENTITY PRIVATE

I will never share personal information such as my full name, my mailing address, my telephone number, the name of my school, or any other information that could help someone determine my actual identity. I will also not reveal any personal information about my friends or family.

I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents or guardian.

I WILL NEVER RESPOND TO ANY ONLINE COMMUNICATION THAT MAKES ME FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE

I will tell a trusted adult if I come across anything that makes me feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused.

I will never respond to any messages that are rude or offensive in any way. I will show the message to a trusted adult right away so that he or she can decide if it's necessary to contact the online service or other authorities.

I WILL NEVER MEET IN PERSON WITH ANYONE I HAVE FIRST "MET" ONLINE WITHOUT DISCUSSING IT WITH MY PARENTS OR GUARDIAN

Since the biggest danger to my safety is getting together with someone I have first "met" online, I won't meet in person with anyone unless my parents or guardian agrees to the meeting, they will go with me to the meeting, and the meeting will be in a public place.

I WILL RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS WHILE ONLINE

The Internet is a large community; therefore, my behavior while on it affects others. I will always treat others the way I would like to be treated.

I will respect copyright laws and check on sources. When writing reports I will make sure that the online sources of information are credible, and I will always cite my sources.

Piracy is illegal and keeps authors, artists, and others from getting paid for their work. I will never download things such as pictures, games, music, or movies that have not been given to the public for free.

SIGNED

SIGNED

www.NetSmartz.org

Adapted from *Teen Safety on the Information Highway* by Lawrence J. Magid.
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This seminar was presented by

George E. Simms III

George E. Simms III received a Juris Doctor degree from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law in 1982. He is a 1978 graduate of the University of Dayton. Mr. Simms clerked for the Honorable DeLawrence Beard of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, from 1984-1985. Since 1985, Mr. Simms has been employed with the Montgomery County, Maryland, State's Attorney's Office.

Mr. Simms has been the Team Leader of the District Court Prosecution Team, the Juvenile Court Prosecution Team, the Germantown Prosecution Team and most recently the Community Prosecution Team. Mr. Simms has successfully prosecuted virtually every type of crime, including homicides, juvenile cases, drug crimes, sex offenses, armed robbery and fraud.

Mr. Simms is active in the Bar Association and the community. Mr. Simms is a two term member of the Montgomery County Bar Association Executive Committee. He served on the Maryland State Bar Association Board of Governors. Mr. Simms has been a member of the Montgomery County Juvenile Court Commission. Mr. Simms lectured at the National District Attorney's Association, Juvenile Court Prosecution Course and at numerous seminars, civic associations, bar associations and community associations on a variety of topics relating to criminal law, juvenile law, cybersafety and victim's rights. Mr. Simms is a past president of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association and a 2004 graduate of Leadership Montgomery.

(240) 777-7383