

Office of Justice Programs

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The Internet is always evolving and some adults may feel that it's hard to keep up. According to the stereotype, if you need technology installed or a lesson in how to use it, ask a 10-year-old!

June is Internet Safety Month and the perfect time to "Click on the Reality" and raise your Internet safety IQ.

The Internet is pervasive and kids are using it as a social networking tool. They can connect with their friends, those who want to be their friends and, in extreme cases, those who want to harm them. Computers were once the most popular means of accessing the Internet, usually under the watchful eye of an adult. Now, however, kids use cell phones and other portable, wireless devices to access the Internet, with little or no supervision.

No doubt, there are adults who would use the Internet to prey on children and teens, but parents and teachers also need to know that kids can use the Internet to bully their classmates. Those who engage in cyberbullying may think it is a harmless prank; however, recent cases have shown that those who are the target of cyberbullying suffer greatly.

Whether it's learning how to protect your children from predators or teaching them that cyberbullying is unacceptable, click on the reality at: www.ojp.gov and share this Internet safety information with others.

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