ONLINE SAFETY

Online safety is critical for everyone. Adults can set a good example for their children by practicing safe online activity. Since kids today often know more than their elders about technology, adults can also learn from their kids about what they're doing online and help them understand how to recognize potential risks. It's no longer enough to tell people to keep their computer in a common area, since we all walk around with computers in our cell phones. Parents have something very important to share with their kids-their experience and judgment. So, just because your child may know more than you about technology, they're lacking that experience and judgment to always know what is potentially dangerous or risky to them and what to do about it.

RESOURCES AND REPORTING

- www.commonsensemedia.org/privacy-and-internet-safety
- www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting
- www.justice.gov/coronavirus/keeping-children-safe-online
- www.cisa.gov/publication/stopthinkconnect-parent-and-educator-resources
- https://report.cybertip.org/
- https://cyberbullying.org/report

POPULAR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

FACEBOOK

- The best way to report abusive content on Facebook is by using the Report link that appears near the content itself.
  Visit www.facebook.com/help/reportlinks for directions to report different types of abusive content (timelines, ads, events, groups, messages, pages, photos, videos, posts, etc.)

INSTAGRAM

- How to Address Abuse: http://help.instagram.com/527320407282978
- Reporting abuse: http://help.instagram com/165828726894770
- Abuse form to fill out: http://help.instagram.com/contact/584460464982589
- Blocking abusers: http://help.instagram.com/426700567389543

TIKTOK

- Report Abuse: info@tiktok.com
- Other issues: support@tiktok.com
- To Report inappropriate content within the platform, select 'Share' on the right side of the video and choose a reason for reporting before submitting.
  https://support.tiktok.com/en/privacy-safety/report-inappropriate-content-default

TWITTER

- URL to report an abusive user: https://support.twitter.com/forms/abusiveuser
- URL to report self-harm: https://help.twitter.com/forms/report_self_harm
- URL to report account impersonation: https://support.twitter. com/forms/impersonation
- Address: Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94102

YOUTUBE

- Reporting inappropriate content: https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802027?hl=en&ref_topic=9387085
- You can also access the Help button on the main page menu: www.Youtube.com

The listed Internet Service Providers, Cell Phone Providers, and Social Media Platforms are not all inclusive.
Contact information provided by Cyberbullying Research Center, www.cyberbullying.org/report.

If you cannot read the material, please contact PBSO at 561-688-3080 to request an alternate format.

ONLINE SAFETY

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Ric L. Bradshaw, Sheriff

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN

- Basic courtesy online. Remember, you might think something is funny when it actually could be hurtful or misinterpreted by someone else.

- To always discuss moving an online "friendship" to a real world encounter with your kids. Not everyone is who they say they are, and they may have different motives for wanting to meet in person.

- To come to you if anyone threatens or scares them, and be proactive, report it to the Internet Service Provider (ISP) such as, AT&T, COMCAST XFINITY, and VERIZON, and, if appropriate, to law enforcement.

- To let you know if anyone on social media platforms like FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, TIKTOK, TWITTER, or YOUTUBE, makes them feel scared or threatens them in any way. Each platform has ways in which you can report harassment, bullying, or abuse.

- About blocking access and privacy software. Make sure neither you nor your children have passwords that are easily decoded, and that you don't share those passwords with anyone.

- Family photos should be kept within the family. Photos can reveal all sorts of personal information about you and your location.

- Not to share intimate photos. Whether romantic or friendship, don't lose control of your personal information if things end badly. Once the photos are out there, they're out there forever.

- Not to fall for tricks like your computer is infected or you've won a million dollars. Phishing scams catch many unsuspecting people, so make sure you discuss this with your kids and practice what you teach.

- How to use social media safely. There are new apps coming out every day, and your children are not the only ones using them. Predators seek out kids they can access easily.

EDUCATE YOURSELF

You may be feeling overwhelmed by the online world, but ignorance is not bliss. Becoming more tech savvy takes time and effort. You can always go to your children to learn more about online activity, which could end up being a good way to start and maintain the conversation.

- Monitoring requires more than simply knowing passwords and the sites and apps your children visit. You should participate in their online activities, including their social media accounts.

- It's difficult to keep up with all the new Apps your children may be using; they change all the time. Activity on Apps and sites have potential risks. Don't count on age restrictions being a safeguard against your children using them.

- Don't be surprised if your children set up accounts you don't know about. Kids think they have a right to privacy with their online activities. They don't, and it is vital you know who they're talking to and what they're talking about.

- Know your kids' friends (virtual and real). They may not recognize the potential risks in getting close to someone they only know online.

- Don't forget gaming consoles. When your kids play these games, they may be chatting with people all over the world. Not everyone wants to just enjoy the game. Your children may be exposed to bullying, inappropriate content and someone wanting to find out where they are to meet them in person.

- Limiting screen time doesn't make you a mean parent. Put rules into place like you do for any activity. Balance is a good thing, and you're in charge of making and enforcing the rules.

- Make sure your kids know you will be there for them and will seek help if anyone is making them scared, uncomfortable or engaging in behavior that is harmful. Reporting to the Internet Service Provider (ISP) or social media platform is a good start. Utilizing security and privacy settings and monitoring/blocking software is also a good tool. But sometimes, you need to contact the authorities.

Encourage your kids to look out for themselves but also for others, including siblings. If they see something disturbing online or hear about something that is frightening to them, they need to tell you or a trusted adult. Be sure your kids know they aren't being tattletales if they're trying to keep themselves and others safe.

INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS (ISP) AND CELL PHONE PROVIDERS

AT&T Internet
- Phone: 800-331-0500 or 1-800-288-2020 (Customer Service)
- Email: abuse@att.net
- Email to report child exploitation: cp@abuse-att.net

Comcast/Xfinity
- Phone: 888-565-4329 (Customer Security Assurance Department)
- Report child pornography: CPReports@comcast.net
- Report cyberbullying: Copy and paste any evidence into an email and send to: abuse@comcast.net including the words "Harassment Investigation" in the subject line.

T-Mobile & Sprint
- Phone: 800-866-2453 or 1-800-937-8997 (Customer Care)
- www.t-mobile.com/support/plans-features/help-with-scams-spam-and-fraud
- www.t-mobile.com/privacy-center/education-and-resources/online-safety

Verizon
- Phone: 800-922-0204
- Email: abuse@verizon.com