

Anthony Basantis
SHERIFF

James Kostoplis
UNDERSHERIFF

Provided courtesy of the
**Burlington County
Sheriff's Department
Crime Prevention Unit**

**Burlington County
Sheriff's Department
49 Rancocas Road
P.O. Box 6000
Mount Holly, New Jersey 08060**

**Telephone: 609-265-3788
Fax: 609-265-5923**

**For further information email
Sheriff@co.burlington.nj.us**



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The Internet and Children's Safety



*Safety tips for
ensuring your children
are safe when
using the internet.*



The Internet

An easy way to explain the internet is to think of your school computers all linked together into a network that you can put information into and get information out that you and other people in your school have put in. Now imagine that a friend from another school wants to use your information and give you some of hers. You both connect your computers to modems that allow your computers to share information.

Other networks can connect to yours and to other networks. This is called **inter-networking** or the **internet** as it became known.

It is a way of sending information from one computer to another anywhere in the world using phones or satellites, radio links and a lot of other ways.



Source: <http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&np=288&id=1545>

How do children use the internet?

- Research for projects
- Games: finding and playing them
- Surf report and surf sites
- CD stores and music sites
- Downloading music
- Finding pictures for hobbies, projects and their own interests
- Looking at girl's or boy's sites
- Email, sending messages to pen friends and keeping in touch with family
- Talking to friends on personal network
- Kids site chatrooms
- Interactive projects at school
- Looking at school sites
- Designing websites
- International internet projects
- Social networking sites
- Blogs

Source: <http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&np=288&id=1545>

Safety Tips for CHILDREN

Here are some ideas to keep you safe:

- Always use a nickname; **never** use your real name.
- **Never** give any personal information like your address, phone number, your family, or even your email address.
- **Don't** send close up photos of yourself, where you live or go to school.
- **Close** the conversation at once if you feel uncomfortable and **tell** mom or dad about it.
- Don't post **pictures** which could embarrass you or your friends.
- **Tell** your parents, your school or report to the police if you are being cyber-bullied.



Source: <http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&np=288&id=1545>

Safety Tips for PARENTS



Basic guidelines for parental supervision:

- Spend time online together to teach your kids appropriate online behavior.
- Keep the computer in a common area where you can watch and monitor its use, not in individual bedrooms.
- Monitor any time spent on smartphones or tablets.
- Bookmark kids' favorite sites for easy access.
- Check your credit card and phone bills for unfamiliar account charges.
- Find out what, if any, online protection is offered by your child's school, after-school center, friends' homes, or any place where kids could use a computer without your supervision.
- Take your child seriously if he or she reports an uncomfortable online exchange.

Source: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/net-safety.html>

Warning Signs of DANGER

Watch for the following warning signs that may indicate your child is getting into trouble online. If you see any of these warning signs, address the issue with your child and track their online activities more closely:

- Your child suddenly turns off the computer when you walk into the room.
- Your child is spending long hours online, especially at night.
- Your child receives calls from people you don't know, or receives unsolicited gifts in the mail.
- Your child withdraws from family life and is reluctant to discuss internet activities.
- You find pornography on your child's computer.
- You find unfamiliar charges on your credit card and phone bills.



Source: <http://www.med.umich.edu/yourchild/topics/internet.htm>

Internet ACRONYMS

121: one to one ADN: any day now AFAIK: as far as I know AFK: away from keyboard A/S/L: age, sex, location B4: before B4N: bye for now BAK: back at the keyboard BBIAB: be back in a bit BBL: be back later BBN: bye bye now BBS: be back soon BEG: big evil grin BF: boyfriend BFN: bye for now BG: big grin BL: belly laughing BMTIPG: brilliant minds think in parallel gutters BRB: be right back BTA: but then again BTW: by the way BWI: bursting with laughter BWTHDIK: but what the heck do I know C&G: chuckle & grin CID: crying in disgrace CNP: continued (in my) next post CP: chat post CRBT: crying real big tears CSG: chuckle, snicker, grin CU: see you CUL: see you later CYO: see you online DBAU: doing business as usual DIKU: do I know you? DL: dead link DLTBBB: don't let the bed bugs bite DQMOT: don't quote me on this EG: evil grin EMFBI: excuse me for butting in EMSG: E-mail message EOT: end of thread F2F: face to face FC: fingers crossed FISH: first in, still here FMTYEWTH: far more than you ever wanted to know FOMCL: falling off my chair laughing FTBOMH: from the bottom of my heart FUD: fear, uncertainty and doubt FWIW: for what it's worth GTG: got to go G: grin GA: go ahead GAL: get a life GD&R: grinning, ducking and running GF: girlfriend GFN: gone for now GIWIST: gee, I wish I'd said that GMB0: giggling by butt off GMTA: great minds think alike GOL: giggling out loud GTRM: going to read mail GTSY: glad to see you H&K: hug and kiss HAGN: have a good night HHIS: hanging head in shame HTN: hope this helps HUB: head up butt IAC: in any case IANL: I am not a lawyer (but) IC: I see IDK: I don't know IAH: I hate acronyms IIRC: if I remember correctly ILLU: I love you IM: instant message IMHO: in my humble opinion IMNSHO: in my hot so humble opinion IMO in my opinion IOV: in other words IPN: I'm posting naked IRL: in real life IWALU: I will always love you IYSWIM: if you see what I mean JIC: just in case JK: just kidding JMO: just my opinion JTLYK: just to let you know K: okay KIT: keep in touch KOC: kiss on cheek KOL: kiss on lips KOTC: kiss on the cheek KWIM: know what I mean? L&R: later LD: later, dude LDR: long distance relationship LLTA: lots and lots of thunderous applause LMIRL: let's meet in real life LMSO: laughing my socks off LOL: laugh out loud LSHMBB: laughing so hard my belly is bouncing LTM: laugh to myself LTNS: long time, no see LTR: long-term relationship LULAB: love you like a brother LULAS: love you like a sister LUWAMH: love you with all my heart LY: love you M/F: male or female MOSS: member of same sex MOTOS: member of the oppo- site sex MSG: message MTF: more to follow MUSM: miss you somuch NADT: not a darn thing NIFOC: naked in front of computer NP: no problem NRN: no reply necessary OIC: on the other hand OTTOMH: off the top of my head P2P: peer to peer P911: my parents are coming1 PAW: parents are watching PDA: public display of affection PEBCAK: problem exists between chair and keyboard PLZ: please PM: private message PMFJIB: pardon me for jumping in but POAHF: put on a happy face POS: parents over shoulder PU: that stinks QT: cute RL: real life ROTFL: rolling on the floor laughing RPG: role playing games RSN: real soon now S4L: spam for life SAW: siblings are watching SETE: smiling ear to ear SHCOON: shoot hot coffee out of nose SHID: slaps head in disgust SF: surfer friendly SNERT: snot nosed egotistical rude teenager SO: significant other SOMY: sick of me yet? SOT: short of time STW: sarch the web SWAK: sealed with a kiss SWL: screaming with laughter SYS: sealed with a kiss SWL: screaming with laughter SYS: see you soon TA: thanks again TAW: teachers are watching TCOB: take care of business TCOY: take care of yourself TIA: thanks in advance TILIL: tell it like it is TMI: too much information TTYL: talk to you later UW: you're welcome WB: welcome back WFM: works for me WIBNI: wouldn't it be nice if WTG: way to go WTGP: want to goprivate?WU:what'supWUF:whereareyoufrom:YBS:you'llbe sorry YL: young lady YM: young men