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Self Defense Protection – Keeping Kids Safe Online

By Michelle Annese

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We all know that keeping our kids safe on the internet is a parent's priority lately. Here are some new tips and strategies to give parents solutions on how to protect their children.

The biggest trick some child predators' are using these days is to pretend to be a kid, in a kid site chat room.

Child predators are talking the lingo, misspelling words, having simple conversations to gain trust with children on the internet.

But do you really know just how fast they can find information about your child or your family?

This is one website every parent must see:

<http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/ceos/index.html>

Scroll down to the bottom and you will see a section called

Interactive Tools

Then click on the link

'What Can Be Revealed in Minutes About Your Child Online'

It is a downloadable tutorial that shows parents and kids just how someone can search for information about you or your child, if they frequent chat rooms, or send out any type of posts on the internet.

It shows you how a stranger on the internet can find out EVERYTHING about your child in about 45 minutes, with even the smallest piece of information to start with.

Here is the direct url for the tutorial:

<http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/ceos/Multimedia/NCMEC%20Video%202.exe>

So what will a child abductor do with this information?

Even if they do not know what your child looks like, they can wait for them to come home from school, call them by name, call them on the phone.

And if they walk home from school, they can come in contact with them en route back home.

Without a doubt, the most dangerous of all... ..you might not even know if your child is being stalked

by a person like this.

Here are some tips to safeguard your child against these types of individuals:

1. Just like TV, video games, or watching movies, you shouldn't let your child have free reign of the computer any time they like.

Have a central family computer space (keep it out of their rooms if there is an internet hook-up) By making use of the computer as a family affair, parents can keep a close eye on who they are interacting with.

2. Make sure you know who they are chatting with online and tell them exactly why you're concerned. Just like you want to meet their friends, get to know who they are talking to online.

tip – Kids are smart these days. They know there are nasty people in our society. Be open with them about your concerns and tell them you love them and you just don't want anything happening to them. That way, when you do get 'nosey cozy' every time they're online, it's not a shock to their system.

Tell your child under no circumstances should they give out their name, address, phone #, or where they go to school over the internet.

tip – It's natural for a kid to want to talk about those things. That's what makes up their day. Help them fight the urge by working with your child on 'safe' topics to chat about; movies, music, current events, even what they are learning in school. But nothing personal.

4. Have them tell you if there are any conversations that make them feel uncomfortable and to not believe anyone they chat with when they type in "Don't Tell Your Mom or Dad..." That's a big flag. Have them tell you about it.

5. Chatting kids should know never to meet ANYONE off of the internet without checking with their parents first, whether in a separate chat room or in person. They must have a parent along and meet in a public place.

6. Tell your child they should NEVER send a picture to anyone, without your permission.

Talk with your child about setting rules for going online (time of day, length of time) and what sites and chat rooms are OK to visit. And what would happen if they break those rules.

Working together, parents and kids can make the internet informative and fun, just don't make it easy for a child predator to find them.

Michelle Annese is a 3rd degree black belt with 15+ years experience teaching industry specific self defense and safety for women and children. She is author of The Realtor Survival Guide, Protection for Women, and The SafeGuard System for Kids. For more information on how to protect yourself and your family go to <http://www.michelleannese.com> Check out other articles by Ms. Annese and get her free safety tips e-newsletter.

Keeping Your Kids Safe While They Are Online

By Tina Barraclough

The INTERNET can be a dangerous place for your kids, if you don't know the risks that can occur while being online. It is our jobs as parents, to know what our kids are doing when they are online. It is up to us to keep them safe in everything that they do.

Thousands of children use the INTERNET everyday without any problems at all, but we've all heard about the danger they could find themselves in. I am a mother ,and I always worry when my kids are online, that is why I pay close attention to what they do when online. Here are some tips so you can be sure that your kids are safe when they are online.

1. The most Important thing you can do to keep your children safe when they are on the INTERNET is to be right there with them while they are online. You should not let them surf the INTERNET in their bedrooms or in another room away from you. If this is not a possibility, then make sure you are often in and out of the room to keep an eye on what is going on. Be sure you know what your kids are doing online at all times.

2. Before allowing your children on the INTERNET ,let them know what is and what is not allowed and stick with these rules. For example, you could tell them no e-mailing, no chat rooms, or whatever guidelines you decide to set for them. Also, let them know that should they decide to break any of your rules, then they will not be allowed online anymore, until they agree to follow the rules you set for them.

3. Get involved in what your kids are doing online. Ask them to show you some of their favorite sites. Have them show you what they like to do when they are online. This will help you determine if there are any problems or concerns that need to be addressed with them. Another way to keep a check on which websites they have visited, click on HISTORY in your browser window.

4. Down load some filtering software. You can find software available that can stop your child giving out personal information such as their name, address, and telephone number. Here are a couple of

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filtering software you can check out:

We – Blocker.....Furnishes users with free software that allows parents to monitor their children's Internet access and filter out inappropriate sites.

Internet Filtering Software.....This Internet filtering software is free. There is no obligation, and it will work with any ISP

Stress to your kids why it is important to keep such information private.

5. All kids, it does not matter how old they are, can be vulnerable when they are online. For example, teenage girls, are at risk from men who lure them into meeting them face to face after chatting online with them for awhile. Let your children know never, ever to arrange a meeting with someone they met

online, no matter how safe it may seem to them.

6. Tell them firmly, never to pay money or agree to pay money for anything without your permission, and never to use your credit card details without your knowledge or permission. You just never know who could somehow get a hold of your credit card details.

7. Also, be sure to warn your kids about online chat rooms for kids. Sometimes, Adults will pretend to be kids in these chat rooms trying to lure kids into meeting them. Rather than chat rooms, I have set up AOL's INSTANT MESSENGER Program for my kids. This gives them more control over who they allow to be one of their "buddies" and they're not nearly as visible, as they would be in actual chat rooms. AOL INSTANT MESSENGER

The INTERNET can provide hours of fun for children of all ages. We, as parents should certainly monitor what our kids are doing on the NET, put safety features in place, depending on how they will be accessing the NET. AOL allows you to set restrictions on certain sites [MSN as well], so your children can surf and be safe at the same time.

To find out about AOL, [CLICK HERE](#)

To find out about MSN, [click here](#)

For more information and a listing of guide lines for keeping your kids safe ONLINE, please visit these two sites.

[Safe kids. com](#)

[Child Safety on the Information Highway](#)

Here are some recommended sites for you to check out for your kids:

[Computer Games for Kids](#)

Self Defense Protection – Keeping Kids Safe Online

Play new games every week with characters from DISNEY

Nickelodeon – Official Site

Commercial, all-kids cable station "NICKELODEON" offers a schedule and outtakes for its popular

lineup of cartoons, including "Rugrats" and "Garfield"

PBS Kids

Official home of "SESAME STREET", TELE TUBBIES, and PBS's other kids shows. Play games, read jokes, and paint some of their characters

Fun Brain

Interactive, Educational games (math and grammar) for children of all ages. Games include Math, Baseball, Change Maker, and Wacky tales.

Kids Games. org

Check out this collection of online games for kids of all ages.

KidsCom

Offers Adult monitored kids chat, games like tangram, and hangman, message boards, video game cheats, contests, and prizes in a kid safe environment.

Tina Barraclough is a stay at home mom and owner of

Visit

her website for Business Opportunities, free e-books, Business Articles, etc.

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Cold And Flu Defense

Can Your Child Ride Or Skate Safely?

Self Defense Education – Three Sure-Fire Ways to Teach Your Child About Safety

Verbal Self Defense - A Critical Factor in Self Defense for Women

Instant Site Safe And Folder Safe

Scams Exposed

The Alphabet of Birds

Disaster Preparedness and Crime Protection Manual

Understanding Acne: Causes, Cures and Myths



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