

## Internet Survival Tips for Parents and Teachers

1. **Be aware and involved.** It's up to us to teach kids how to use the Internet — and all media — safely and responsibly. Just as we teach them how to eat properly and drive safely, we must teach them how to be safe, responsible, and respectful on the Internet.
2. **Do your homework.** Check out sites, investigate ratings, explore safety and privacy tools and parental control features. Don't be intimidated by the Internet.
3. **Talk to your kids.** Ask them questions about where they're going online and who their buddies are
4. **Teach safety.** Make sure your kids know how to avoid dangers. No party postings, no personal information, no meeting strangers — ever.
5. **Set rules.** Time limits, place limits, codes of conduct. Try to keep computers with Internet access in a central room in your house if younger kids are online.
6. **Report suspicious activity** to your Internet service provider or the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (1-800-843-5678).
7. **Help kids view online information with a critical eye.** Not everything that appears on the Web is true. Teach them to be savvy consumers of Internet information.
8. **View your own online habits with a critical eye.** Our kids watch everything we do. If you don't want your kid doing what you're doing online you might want to think twice about your own habits.
9. **Embrace their world.** Download music, IM your kids, play an online game, visit MySpace. Not only will your kids appreciate it, you'll know what you're dealing with!

**Remember, the Internet is here to stay. It's our job to help our kids be Internet safe and Internet smart.**