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Issue: #14

July 2008

14th Edition of the Children Online Newsletter.

We want to welcome our many new subscribers who come from all over the United States, Mexico, Canada, Australia, and India. Our hope is that this free newsletter provides important information and connection for parents and educators on the increasingly important topic of technology and children.



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SAFE PRACTICES FOR LIFE ONLINE

Below is a detailed description of our current book which provides an Internet safety curriculum for schools.

"Safe Practices for Life Online" is designed to teach students skills for using the Internet more safely and focus attention on issues that arise from life online. It also reveals many of the scams targeting kids online and how to avoid them. Students learn how to reduce their chances of being targeted online and how to better protect their privacy and the value of that privacy. "Safe Practices for Life Online" is available in a Teacher's edition, published by the International Society for Technology in

It is summer here in the United States and educators (not always parents!) have increased time to take a breath, catch up on paperwork and begin thinking about a new school year. We are both spending time with our families and gearing up for a new season of consulting to schools. While our schedule is getting quite full, we do have additional openings for the 2008-2009 school year. Please contact Marje or Doug at marjem@childrenonline.org or dougf@childrenonline.org for further information on our consulting services.

As always, we welcome your comments and questions.
 Marje Monroe and Doug Fodeman

CREATING PATHWAYS TO EDUCATING CHILDREN AND TEENS ON TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET SAFETY

Given the impact of cell phones, social networking sites, instant messaging, YouTube and gaming sites on young

Education (ISTE), and in a student's edition. The student edition is designed to accompany the teacher's edition and is self-published through Lulu.com to keep the cost as low as possible for schools to purchase. The book is 130 pages and filled with nearly 90 classroom exercises/activities. It is also supported by a password-protected website containing all web resources found in the book as well as new resources as they are found.

Teacher's edition:

www.iste.org/LifeOn

Student's edition:

www.lulu.com/content/2682488

Topics include:

- * Passwords and screen names
- * Protecting your privacy online
- * Avoiding identity theft and impersonation
- * What do you do when you feel uncomfortable online?
- * Cyberbullying
- * Instant Messaging
- * Social Networks
- * Communication: Real life vs. life online
- * Learning to be media savvy online
- * Scams and phishing
- * Home rules for Internet safety: Working with parents
- * How private is your life online? A test.
- * Online resources

[About ChildrenOnline.org](http://AboutChildrenOnline.org)

people; schools and parents are looking to create ways to educate their children and students on the topic of technology, the internet and media literacy. Just as schools decades ago began to include human development, nutrition, alcohol and drugs, and sexuality to their curriculum, schools today face this issue with technology. The difficulty with this new topic is the ever-changing nature of technology.

Pre-teens today see their cell phones as hand held computers and seamlessly connect to friends via social networking sites, email, instant messaging, texting and, on occasion, voice communication. This was unthinkable ten years ago. At the same time parents and schools are busier than ever. As educators ourselves, we know first hand how challenging it can be for schools to add a new course or requirement to an already overloaded schedule for teachers and students. There are a variety of ways in which schools have created strong, vital programs and we will be exploring those in detail in our next edition.

For parents and schools who are just beginning to tackle this issue we have compiled a list of what we consider the most critical topics to cover. It is important to remember that each grade level presents different developmental issues related to technology. We do not speak to 4th and 5th graders for example, on some of the dangers, marketing scams and bullying found on social networking sites. Teens, on the other hand, do not need or want discussions on understanding instant messaging or email.

Technology-Safety Education Checklist

- Passwords and Screen Names
- Understanding the Value of Privacy
- There is no privacy online
- Avoiding Identity Theft and Impersonation
- Responding to meanness and bullying online
- What does harassment look like online?
- Instant Messaging
- Social Network Sites
 - Webkinz, Club Penguin for children
 - MySpace, Facebook for Teens
- YouTube and the online video phenomenon
- Communicating responsibly online
- Learning to be Media Savvy (What sites should you trust?)
- Scams, Phishing attempts and tricks online
- Texting
- Setting up privacy restrictions and safety software

Just as students need yearly education on other areas of study, we feel it is critical that schools provide continuing

ChildrenOnline.org offers innovative and comprehensive workshops on Internet safety and online education to students, parents, faculty and administrators. Our approach, unique in the field of Internet safety, combines a thorough understanding of Internet technologies, child development and counseling, to focus on the impact of the internet on the social, emotional and language development of young people.

Doug Fodeman and Marje Monroe, experts in technology, counseling and education, work together to provide invaluable research and tools for parents and schools with practical real-life solutions to the issues faced by young people online. Since 1997, Marje and Doug have spoken to thousands of students, teachers and parents. They have several publications in the area of Internet safety and offer a free online newsletter. More detailed information can be found at ChildrenOnline.org.

Technology education for grades 4-12. Education programming in school can range from a full year required course, monthly workshops, once a week seminars or outside consulting. Schools differ in their financial and personnel resources and need to tailor their programs accordingly.

For more information on the technology and safety topics please visit the resources section of our website Childrenonlineorg. This fall our third book focusing on strategies for parents and educators provides detailed information on the above topics. Look to our website for further information.

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