

DO...

- ☺ ... Use the internet to keep in touch with family and friends.
- ☺ ... Use the internet to help with your schoolwork.
- ☺ ... Use the internet to find information about topics that interest you, such as sports, world events, landmarks, etc.

But Beware...

- 👁 ... When someone offers you something for nothing.
- 👁 ... There are internet sites that are for adults only. If you find yourself in one of these sites, Be sure to LEAVE IMMEDIATELY, and tell your parents.
- 👁 ... That people online may not be who they say they are. Because you can't see or hear them, it is easy for a person to pretend to be someone else!

Internet Safety Tips for Kids



Office of Plymouth County
District Attorney

Timothy J. Cruz

32 Belmont Street
P.O. Box 1665
Brockton, MA 02303

Phone: 508-584-8120
Fax: 508-586-3578

www.mass.gov/da/plymouth

TIMOTHY J. CRUZ

District Attorney
Plymouth County

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR KIDS



32 Belmont Street
Brockton, MA 02301



A Message from District Attorney Tim Cruz:

As a parent, I realize how exciting it is for

kids to get on the web to chat with their friends. Back when your parents and I were kids, we didn't have computers in our homes. Now, computers are in nearly every home in America, as well as in every school, business and library.

Today, kids have to be even more careful to protect themselves from the dangers that exist on the Internet.

Using common sense, you will be able to enjoy numerous hours of fun filled activities, as well as gain valuable information about the events that are happening in our world.

Remember to get your parent's permission before you go online.

Good Luck and Safe Surfing!

Internet Safety Tips:

- ✓ Talk with your parents before you go online. Obey their rules, they will determine the time of day, the length of time you can be online, and the sites which you can visit.
- ✓ Always check with your parents before downloading anything or filling out any surveys or guest books. Some programs have viruses or bugs imbedded in them that can crash your computer, or steal the information stored on your computer.
- ✓ If you come across something online that makes you feel uncomfortable, trust your instincts. Log off immediately and tell your parents.
- ✓ If you IM, make sure that everyone listed on your buddy list is someone you have already met in person. Be leary of a "new buddy" you haven't met in person. If someone that you do not recognize sends you an IM, block them and tell your parents immediately.
- ✓ If anyone on the internet requests your picture, address, telephone number or any other personal information about you or your family, tell your parents immediately.

Never Ever...

- ✗ Never give your personal info or password to strangers. Passwords are meant to protect your computer files. Giving out your password would be like giving a stranger the key to your house.
- ✗ Never give your e-mail address to anyone on the internet without your parent's permission.
- ✗ Never answer messages that are scary or offensive, especially messages that talk about private body parts, or harming people you love. Print the message and give it to your parents. It's not your fault if you receive a message like that.
- ✗ Never answer e-mails or IM's from people you haven't already met in person.
- ✗ Never agree to get together with anyone you "meet" online.

TIMOTHY J. CRUZ
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
PLYMOUTH COUNTY