

Tips for Living Safe and Smart in the Digital World

Adapted from: <https://technologyjones.com/tips-on-keeping-your-kids-safer-online/>

SET THE FOUNDATION - We want students to be good digital citizens, but more is caught than taught. Our children watch and mimic what we do more than do what we tell them to do. Show them the way! Behave properly online, put your device down (especially while driving!), read a book or magazine, or go outside and play with your children.

TALK TO YOUR CHILD - The number one thing you can do to keep your child safe is to talk to them early and often. There are apps and websites you can use to monitor your child's computer, tablet or smartphone, but nothing beats having a relationship with your child that includes open and honest communication. Let your child know that he or she can come to you and talk about anything. Consider having a device free dinner or a no phone zone during your family time.

SET RULES AND BOUNDARIES - Talk to your child about what is and is not appropriate online behavior. What type of language is acceptable? Do you want them to use chat rooms? What types of pictures are inappropriate to share with and receive from friends?

DON'T SHARE PERSONAL INFORMATION - It is not wise to give out your full name, address, phone number, school you attend, or birthday. Also, check privacy settings on each website your child uses. Even if you know not to give out your personal information, you may do so inadvertently.

BE WHERE YOUR KIDS ARE - In other words, be nosy! Know what sites your kids are using and have your own account at the same sites. It is difficult to protect your child from something you don't know about. Some parents also have all of their kids' usernames and passwords.

CONSEQUENCES - Social networking sites and apps can be fun. Depending on how they are used, they can also have some real consequences. Check the age requirements. Most social media apps and sites are 13+. Many college admission offices and corporate HR departments are checking online profiles. The first stop is usually Facebook. Depending on what they find, your child may not get into the school of their choice or be hired for the job they REALLY want. Once you press send you have lost control over what you just typed or the picture you just took. It may be months or years down the road, but you never know when your text or picture may resurface, even on apps or sites where posts supposedly "disappear" after a certain time.

SEARCHING THE WEB - Younger children need help when they are looking for information online. Even safe websites can contain links to other places.

COMMON AREA CHARGING STATION – There aren't many reasons for children to have unmonitored access to a phone or device in their bedroom at night. They should be sleeping in there anyway, right? Consider having an area in your kitchen or living room where devices are stored at night.

Resources for Students



Starling's Links

Great tools and fun games for learning.

<http://www.starlingelementary.org/links.html>



GCPS Student Portal

Students use their 9 digit student ID number and teacher designated password to login to the student portal. On the portal landing page, students have access to Classworks, digital textbooks, Mega Math, Leveled Readers, and the Online Research Library.

<https://publish.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/gcps/home/gcpslogin>



BrainPOP and BrainPOP Jr.

Fun, informative, kid friendly videos on a variety of topics.

Login: starling | **Password:** brainpop

<https://www.brainpop.com/>

<https://jr.brainpop.com/>

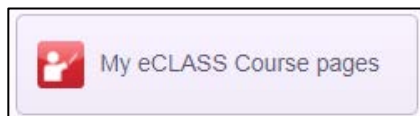


MobyMax

Math and Reading Lessons

Login: 9 digit student ID number | **Password:** learn1

<https://www.mobymax.com/ga833>



My eCLASS

Students use their 9 digit student ID number and teacher designated password to login to the student portal. The My eCLASS Course Pages button is on the right side, under Apps. These pages are maintained by your child's teachers and are used for in class instruction and for homework.

<https://publish.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/gcps/home/gcpslogin>



NetSmartzKids

FREE games, e-books, videos, and activities that promote internet safety.

<http://www.netsmartzkids.org/>

Resources for Parents



<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

<http://www.netsmartz.org/Parents>

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/guide/essential-school-tools>

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