

There No Signs on Cyber Drive

Making Decisions About Internet Use

The internet has more resources than you will ever be able to use in your entire lifetime, and maybe some things you don't want to see. Anyone can create a website, for any reason. People can also exchange information and talk to each other while they are online together, and sometimes people can be **inappropriate**. There are things on the internet that might offend you, and things that can damage your computer. You will learn about how to deal with the technical issues later, but before you get online you should discuss the following things with a helper, and make decisions that are right for you.

YOU WILL NEED A COMPUTER WITH INTERNET ACCESS TO WORK IN THIS BOOK.



Topic	Question	Reasons why this is an important question	Decision
Time Online	How much time can you spend online each day?		
	What are the conditions for going online? (have a parent present, after finishing homework, before 9 p.m., etc.)		
Location of Computer	Where will the computer be located?		
	Who has access to this computer and when?		
Supervision of Computer	Can you use the computer without supervision?		
	What activities are permitted unsupervised?		
	Which activities are you not permitted to do?		
Personal Information	What information is okay to share online and what is not?		
Web Sites	What kinds of websites do you plan to be viewing?		
	What search engines or directories can you use?		
Meeting online friends	What chat sites or meeting rooms will you visit?		
	Under what conditions is it okay to meet someone in person that you have chatted with online?		
Inappropriate material	What will you do if you encounter material that makes you uncomfortable or scared?		
	What will you do if you feel someone is trying to take advantage of you through the internet?		
Downloading	What should be done before downloading from the Internet?		
Other questions or concerns			

