Internet Ethics



Cyberspace

Cyberspace is like a big city. There are libraries, universities, museums, places to have fun, and plenty of opportunities to meet wonderful people. But, like any community, there are also some people and areas that you need to avoid and others that you should approach with caution.

Cyberspace

■By knowing the dangers and how to avoid them, you can take advantage of all the positive aspects of the Internet while avoiding most of its pitfalls. (www.sdcyberspace.com)

- 1.Do not give out personal information.
 - Address
 - Phone number
 - School name or location
 - Credit card number
 - Pictures

- 2.Do not agree to get together with someone you meet online.
 - Chat rooms are the most dangerous area on the Internet.
 - You never know for certain if they are who they say they are.
 - Discuss it with your parents and meet in a public place with your parents

3.Do not give our your Internet account password or use someone else's password.

- 4.Do not download or install from Internet or open e-mail attachments.
 - Don't open e-mail if you don't know who sent it to you, you could spread a virus. It would be best to delete the message.
 - It is possible to get a virus from someone you know. It is best to purchase a virus scanning software program.

- 5.Do not send or display offensive or inappropriate messages or pictures.
 - Harassment is illegal.
 - Respect others.

- 6.Do not damage computers, computer systems, or computer networks.
 - Hacking is illegal.
 - Respect other's property.

- 7.Do not violate copyright laws. Respect other's rights to ownership.
 - Public Domain Programs They are not copyrighted and you can put them on as many computers as you want to for free.
 - Freeware Programs The author retains the copyright. They are free to use or give away, but you can't sell them or modify them.
 - Shareware Programs The author retains the copyright. You can use these programs for a short evaluation period, then you must pay a small fee or erase the program. You can't give this away to your friends; they must also pay the fee.

- Do not trespass in another's folder, work, or files.
 - Respect others' right to privacy.

Chat Room Behavior

Remember:

- Anything you say may be accessed by others.
- You don't really know who you are talking to.
- Use your manners.
 - Some messages could be considered as harassment, which is a federal crime.
- If you are on your parents account, it could get them into trouble

Spam Mail

- Spam is bulk e-mail advertising for some product or service that is sent to you through e-mail.
- Don't reply to Spam mail. Spammers sell this information to others spammers.
- To avoid spam stay anonymous.
 - When a website asks for your name and e-mail address, leave the e-mail field blank or make up and address like lsdkfklsdj@hotmail.com

Surfing the 'Net

- Always use a search engine like www.google.com
- Use Boolean Logic to narrow down a search.

Boolean Logic

- A search for . . . Returns pages with...
 - Ruby slippers
 - +ruby slippers
 - "wicked witch"
 - Dorothy-Kansas
 - Dorothy Gale
 - Dorothy, Gale

- Ruby or slippers
- Ruby, maybe slippers
- The words wicked next to the word witch
- The name Dorothy; Kansas is ranked lower
- The name Dorothy Gale
- Either Dorothy or Gale

Reporting Internet Crime

- Call your Internet provider.
- Call local law enforcement.
- Go to www.cybertipline.com
- ■Call 1-800-843-5678

Quiz

- ■Go to www.cyberspacers.com/quiz/
- Read each question and choose the best answer. There are 5 of them.
- Read the "Think About it" for each question.

Poster

- Design a poster to display good Internet ethics.
- **■**Example:
 - Don't give out personal information; they'll track down your location.
 - Don't be a computer hacker, be a virus cracker.
- ■Be creative.