Your Child’s D.I.G.I.T.A.L Life

New York State Attorney General
http://www.ag.ny.gov

The NetSmartz Workshop is an interactive, educational safety resource from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® (NCMEC) and Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) for children aged 5 to 17, parents, guardians, educators, and law enforcement that uses age-appropriate, 3-D activities to teach children how to stay safer on the Internet.

What is your child doing online?
What are the risks?
What can you do?

A presentation brought to you by the New York State Office of the Attorney General in collaboration with The Netsmartz Workshop®
Dear New Yorker,

The Internet is an immense and valuable resource that unlocks a world of possibilities. Today both adults and children are using the Internet to research a wide array of issues - colleges, health plans, and employment opportunities, among many others. Our kids, however, are also using the Internet as an online playground. They socialize, post pictures and videos, play video games, and share experiences with friends.

Unfortunately, strangers also have access to these conversations, pictures, and videos. When our kids are online, they can be exposed to real dangers - among them, pornography, sexual predators, identity theft, and cyberbullying. As parents, we can help our kids take advantage of the Internet without falling victim to its risks.

This is why I have made the online safety of children a top priority. My office has created educational materials with The Netsmartz Workshop®, a resource of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. This presentation provides vital information that will help you have a conversation with your child about how to safely enjoy the digital world. By working together, we can keep our kids safer.

Tips for Parents:

» You are your child’s Internet access provider! Set rules for using cell phones, computers, and all other Internet-ready devices.

» Set rules for how much time your children can spend online, what programs they can use, what sites they can visit, and who they can talk to.

» What you say online stays online! Teach kids to protect their identity and their reputation by keeping personal information (name, age, birth date, location) private. Explain that anything posted online can be seen by anybody and become a part of their digital footprint for years to come.

» Know what is on your computer! Check your computer’s Internet history to see what sites have been accessed and what programs have been downloaded. Consider using filtering and monitoring software.

» Most importantly, talk to your kids about their online experiences and the dangers that are out there. Encourage them to tell a trusted adult if anything makes them uncomfortable.

» Remember, if you believe your child is in immediate danger, contact your local law enforcement agency.

Andrew M. Cuomo
New York State Attorney General

PROTECTING YOUR KIDS FROM SEXUAL PREDATORS AND CYBERCRIMES

The New York State Attorney General's Office is helping protect children and families from Internet crimes by aggressively prosecuting offenders, enforcing new safeguards through industry-wide agreements, and proposing legislative reform.

The Attorney General announced landmark agreements with five of the largest Internet Service Providers (“ISPs”) - AT&T, Verizon, Time Warner Cable, Sprint, and AOL - to shut down major sources of online child pornography.

Together with Facebook, the Office also created a groundbreaking safety model for social networking websites aimed at protecting network members, especially children and adolescents, from sexual predators, obscene content, and harassment. This agreement with Facebook served as a model for a subsequent agreement between MySpace and 49 states’ Attorneys General, including New York.

To establish vital protections for Internet users, the Attorney General proposed the most comprehensive law in the nation - The Electronic Security and Targeting of Online Predators or E-Stop. This new law requires convicted sex offenders to register their e-mail addresses and all online identities/names to ensure that social networking websites can screen and block these predators from communicating with minors.

The New Yorker, Andrew M. Cuomo
New York State Attorney General