

**Parenting Education and Family Engagement***Working together to help students be successful in school.*

## Take Home Tips

### Teaching Children About Digital Citizenship

Teaching about digital citizenship is teaching your child how to interact within the online world. These skills will help your child be more successful in navigating through a high-paced digital world. Below are ways to teach your child about digital citizenship:



- Discuss the importance of not sharing passwords or personal information with anyone online.
- Manage your child's downloaded applications. Check the privacy settings. Pay attention to location sharing, in-app purchases and who can view the posts.
- Discuss how your child should not talk to strangers with anyone online. If your child has not met that person face to face, then that person is a stranger.
- Help your child understand the consequences of putting things online. Once something is uploaded, it stays online forever. It can leave a permanent digital footprint, even if deleted.
- Explain the importance of treating others online with respect and kindness, as if that person was standing right next to your child.
- Encourage your child to be upstanding. Don't stir up trouble, be a force of good. Peers sticking up for other peers is the best defense against cyberbullying.
- If your child is going to share someone else's work, make sure the information being shared is accurate and that your child knows how to cite where that information came from.
- Create a technology safety plan (like a fire safety plan). Who will your child go to when something makes him/her feel sad, scared or uncomfortable? What should your child do in that moment?
- Monitor your child's media use. It's OK to check, but it's best to let your child know that you will be doing this. Always make sure to follow up with a chat about what you find -- or don't find. If your child makes a mistake, discuss better choices moving forward. The goal is to help your child make good choices on their own.

Source: Common Sense Media, commonsense.org

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