



Family Contract Activity

Purpose

To establish family standards for using the Internet and commit to each other that we will live by the guidelines that will keep our family safe.

Background for Adults

Children will follow rules better if they help make them. They also learn better if teaching. Allow your child input as write down your family rules. You may use these rules or adjust them to fit your family.

What You Will Need

You will need the following items for this lesson. All items (except the frame) are available at www.iKeepSafe.org/PRC/FamilyFun

1. Printouts of: “See What I Know!” and “Safety Book” sheets
2. Printout of: Family Contract Sheet
3. A picture frame to hold your Family Contract (optional)
4. Treat & family party
5. Internet safety games: Netsmartzkids.org and surfswellisland.org

The Setting

Where possible, have both parents participate in teaching the lesson. Sit down together in your home’s gathering area. You will need access to your computer during the lesson. Turning off phones, televisions, and radios will send a strong message to your children that their safety is of highest importance to you and that you value this family time together.

To boost your confidence, read through all the instructions before you begin. Smile and look into your child’s eyes—your lesson will be a hit!

Lesson

For younger kids:

1. Make the safety book
2. Go to the family contract at www.iKeepSafe.org/PRC/FamilyFun/. Review the concepts in the Safety Book and note them on the family contract. You may want to add or adjust items, as appropriate for your family.

For older kids:

1. Review the basic concepts of Internet safety learned together as a family.

2. Go to the family contract at www.iKeepSafe.org/PRC/FamilyFun/. Read through items listed on the safety contract. Ask for suggestions and add or alter items, as appropriate for your family. Make changes and print.

Summary

Reinforce to children that Internet safety isn't just for kids—you plan to live by the Family Contract as well.

Parent: These safety ideas may seem very simple, but they are also very important—just like it's a simple idea that we need to look both ways before we cross the street or use seat belts in the car. By living by our Contract when we're online, we'll keep our computer and our family safe.

Sign the family contract and post it next to your computer. Celebrate the fact that your family is now closer to being safe online! Serve a treat and play some Internet safety games: