

LESSON 7

CYBER SAFETY



Today's Lesson: Lesson 7

In today's lesson, your child learned the importance of making safe choices online. They were introduced to several unsafe situations and shown how to use their newfound tools to make safe choices. One situation included an invitation to join a conversation in an online chat room. Chat rooms and chat features on games and apps are never safe for children. The concept that children will really never know who they are chatting with is illustrated. Another situation in today's lesson deals with a cellphone search for a math game that ends with an unsafe image depicted on the screen. Your child saw how to handle such an occurrence using their safety tools, especially by telling their **Grown-Up Buddy**. They also learned about how safety settings on their devices can help keep them safe from accidentally ending up on inappropriate websites. Your child learned what to do if they receive an unwanted text message that asks for personal information. Two ideas stressed in this lesson are that your children should never respond to someone they don't know with any personal information and that they should never send a picture over digital devices. An important message in this lesson is that once a picture, personal information, email address and/or text message is posted or sent, it can never be retrieved. Your child earned their **Cyber Learners Permit** for learning the rules for good **Cyber Citizenship**!



Human Trafficking Prevention

Throughout Lesson 7, students learned the importance of making safe choices for safe **Internet** behavior. Students are introduced to several **unsafe situations** and shown how to use their safety tools to make safe choices. Students will apply the **Rules for Cyber Safety** to different situations. This activity will reinforce the use of the **safety rules** learned and the importance of making safe and smart decisions online.



Caregiver Connection

Good **Cyber Citizenship** and **Cyber Safety** are important in the home. Extend **Cyber Safety** at home. What are the rules for the use of **digital devices** in your home? What are your safety settings? Talk with your child about what they should do if they find an inappropriate website or see an image that is upsetting. It is very important that you always know who is photographing your child and where those photographs are being posted. Your child must understand that once something is posted on the **Internet**, it is permanent.

Technology changes daily, and new sites and apps are launched all the time, so it is vital that you consistently monitor your child's use of the computer, tablet, smartphone, etc. While it's important to respect your child's privacy, you have a responsibility as the owner and account holder of those devices to monitor their uses and activity. Children should understand that it is a privilege to use these devices.

Activities to Try at Home

You are encouraged to use the following resources with your child at home. Each may be downloaded and printed.

- [Steps-to-Safety: Cyber Safety](#)



Tips to Further Today's Lesson

A child's **Guiding Voice** was a strategy for staying safe in this lesson. **Guiding Voice** is the little voice inside your child that helps them decide if a situation is safe or unsafe. Encourage your child to pay attention to what their **Guiding Voice** says in any situation.

For more ways to talk to your child about staying safe, visit [Safer, Smarter Families](#). For additional resources, visit [Lauren's Kids](#). To report abuse, call the [ChildHelp National Child Abuse Hotline](#) at 1-800-422-4453, and you will be referred to your local reporting agency.

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