

Lausanne Learning Institute 2013

Parenting in the Digital World: A Curriculum for Teaching Parents about Cybersafety, Digital Citizenship, and Effective Computer Use

Matt Harris, Ed.D.

Member of the Board of Directors

International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)

Head of Learning Resources

German European School Singapore

matt@mattharrisedd.com

Download the handout at <http://tinyurl.com/lli13mh>

My Background

- Head of Learning Resources, German European School Singapore
- Member of the Board of Directors, ISTE
- 10+ years of experience
 - Teacher – IT, Informational Literacy, Math, PP, EE
All grades PreS -> GradS
 - Administrator
- Educational Doctorate in Educational Leadership
- Worked in private schools, international schools, universities

Considerations

- Who, when, how, and why? Get your logistics and presentation style clear before you start.
- What are the takeaways?
- What is the format?
- Who initiates the conversation?
- Are there community values or cultural norms you need to consider?
- What age range are you targeting?
- Are there elements of your school programs (1:1 program, tablets, network, etc) or school policies that should be highlighted here?
- Will you invite outsiders?

Remember...they are parents

- Parents will come to this with:
 - Different views on discipline and childrearing
 - Opinions about the role of technology in childhood
 - Varying levels of knowledge/ignorance (IT professionals are not always helpful)
 - Fear
 - Anger
 - Genuine interest and gratitude
 - Irrationality
- Be a calming force
- Admit early (and often) that these are suggestions, not answers
- Encourage them to draw upon community resources and friends
- Encourage them to ask questions

Parenting and Cybersafety in the Digital World

A Look at Student Safety on Computers and the Internet

Matt Harris, Ed.D.
Head of Learning Resources
German European School Singapore
matt@mattharrisedd.com

Our topics for this evening

- **Ergonomics**
- **Best Practices at Home**
- **Personal Safety on the Internet**
- **Cyberbullying**
- **Inappropriate Information**
- **Keeping Computers Safe and Operational**
- **Discussion**

Ergonomics



- Physical safety is just as important
- Lifetime of screen time awaits
- Things to remember:
 - Earned time/Limited time
 - Take a break
 - The 20-20-20 rule
 - Sit straight and relaxed
 - <http://mashable.com/2013/02/19/digital-eye-strain-tips/>

Blurring the Lines Between Home and School



We hear that computers and the Internet extend the classroom into the home...

But they also extends the home into the classroom.

Truly, there is little division anymore

Your children are **Natives to the Digital World...**

They are said to be **Digital Natives.**

- **Blurring of multiple worlds, multiple selves**
- **Strong sense of community**

How Teens/Tweens Communicate

- **Mobile Phones**
- **SMS**
- **Instant Messaging**
- **Skype**
- **Social Networking**
- **Web pages (forums, blogs, etc.)**
- **Gaming**
- **Media Sharing**
- **Email**
- **Face-to-face (if they have time...)**



Online Identity

A Digital Native' s identity online is equally as important as their identity in real life

- **Screen names, avatars, profile pictures, speech patterns, icons, etc.**
- **Encourage them to express themselves online as you encourage them in real life**
- **Remember, that the same safety rules for self-protection still apply**
 - **Be wary of false identities or misrepresentation**

Digital Citizenry

- **Remember: Online actions have consequences in the real world**
- **Digital communications ARE NOT PRIVATE**
- **How you portray yourself online will reflect on what people think of you offline**
- **The Internet does not have a half-life...it is there forever**
- **Act as if...**

Parenting of **Digital Natives** extends into the **Digital World**.

Most **Digital Natives** think their time on the Internet is unsupervised.

Just like with regular parenting, **everything** is a learning opportunity.

Parenting Practices at Home

- **Extend your parenting presence online**
- **Clear define rules...and stick to them**
- **NO COMPUTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**
- **Join the party**
 - **Txt ur kids**
 - **Get an IM account**
 - **Start a Facebook page**
 - **Skype from time to time**
 - **...do this while you are in the same room.**



Personal Safety on the Internet

Personal Information

- On the Internet personal information = personal safety
 - Name
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Grade
 - School
 - Address
 - Pictures
 - Usernames
 - Phone numbers
 - Friends & family info

Personal Safety

- Treat everyone like a stranger
- Don't respond to unknown requests
- Encourage talking to friends, parents, teachers about any questions
- Protect each other

Cyberbullying

- **Something to take seriously**
- **It comes in many forms and in many severities**
 - **Places to look: Social networking, Texting, IM**
 - **Protect your child**
 - Check privacy settings
 - Block/report the bully
 - **Be careful of being bullied or bullying**
 - **Look for signs**
 - **Review material**
 - **Stay calm**
 - **Talk with your child**
 - **Model behavior**

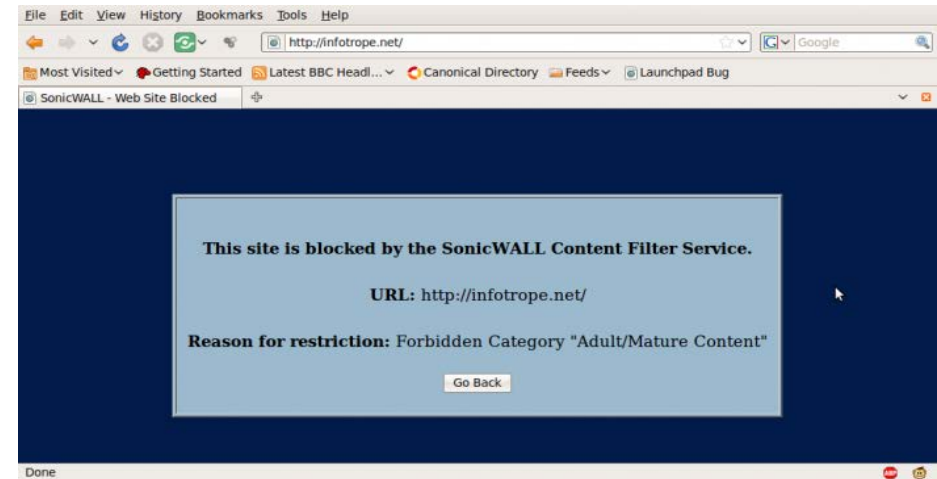
Bottom line:

Use **COMMON SENSE** and

Protect yourself and your friends and family
AT ALL TIMES.

Accessing Inappropriate Information

- This is going to happen...both accidentally and intentionally.
- Set clear rules and guidelines...you need to use your values in any discussion
- Educate and protect
 - Web-filtering
 - Limit websites and activities
 - No unsupervised computer use
 - Extend your parenting presence



Keeping Computers Safe and Operational

- **Viruses:**
 - Install virus protection software and update your computer regularly
 - Avoid unknown email attachments, URLs, or ads
 - Backup, scan, erase
- **SPAM:**
 - Teach your SPAM filters
 - Delete immediately
 - Never click “unsubscribe”
- **Personal Accounts:**
 - Each user should get their own account
 - Tweens passwords should not be secret
- **Copyrights, License, Pirating:**
 - Check for pirated software or media
 - Watch for Torrent programs
 - Check usage licenses

Some suggested game sites for kids

www.lego.com

www.pbskids.org

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/>

<http://www.cbeebies.com/asia/>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/

<http://www.raisesmartkid.com/3-to-6-years-old/4-articles/34-the-good-and-bad-effects-of-video-games>

Thank you.

Matt Harris, Ed.D.

Head of Learning Resources

matt@mattharrisedd.com