PARENT PAGE—Personal Information on the Internet

Your child has been learning that it is important not to give out personal information over the Internet without permission from a trusted adult.

To make this a successful learning experience, it is important for parents to become involved by reinforcing this concept at home.

Your child has learned that to be safe, he or she should always have the help of a trusted adult when using the Internet. A trusted adult is a parent, guardian, or teacher, or someone designated by one of them to oversee the child's Internet use. This is especially true if children are using Web sites to communicate with others.

Safety Tips for Families

- Have the family computer in an open area, never in your child's bedroom.

- Respect your child's privacy. Rather than "policing" your child's online behavior, keep the lines of communication open with him or her.

- Talk to your child about the importance of being careful when posting personal information on the Internet in profiles and when messaging. Let your child know that if there is a need to give out some information to complete and activity, you will work on it together. Your child will learn how to gradually take on more responsibilities online.

- Let your children know that they can come to you if they ever find themselves in an uncomfortable situation while on the Internet.

- Become a part of your child's online experience–it can be a fun journey to explore the wonders of the Internet as a family. As computer savvy as children are today, they may even teach you a thing or two!

- Learn about the Internet–the more you know about how the Internet works, the more you can be informed about how online predators and identity thieves work, and can find out what you can do to stop them.