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## Online Safety

Do you spend a lot of time online? There are many dangerous things out there. There are cyberbullies, and then some people start flame wars, but we call them trolls. There are many more! Just follow these simple rules about how to be safe online, use digital etiquette, not to be a bully, and keeping your information private. Then you will be a pro at online safety.

There are important rules on digital devices. Another word for etiquette is netiquette. Netiquette is being polite online and communicating clearly. The rules for how to behave online is like having good manners in real life. You can use it in online games, chatting, or messaging. Some people decide to use bad manners online that's not good! Yelling at people, or name calling is called flaming. When two people get into an argument. Some people go online just to start flame wars. Next most people's online name is anonymous so no one knows who they are. So always treat people kindly. Never write in all caps it means your yelling, but before you send anything reread it. Don't post anything about your friends before you ask.

Cyberbullying is just bullying on the web. It includes mean posts or messages. People do it to feel better about themselves. Cyber bullies think they are safe behind their screen names. The best way to stop cyberbullying is not to be one. If you fight with a bully it can make things worse. Tell an adult when it happens. What you post online can stay there forever. Other people can figure out your actual name. Don't share passwords, or personal information to anyone you don't know.

Don't share personal information. Never give anyone your street address, name, or phone number you don't know. Think before you share. Next spam is when you get emails you don't want. Companies make lists of email addresses to sell them to spammers. Most spams are viruses or tricks to take your money. Never ever open spam attachments. Always keep your information private. Delete any messages you don't

recognize. Malware tracks your sites and sends them to advertisers. The and tricks. Identity theft is when people steal your money or run thousands of dollars off of your credit card. good thing is you can buy anti spyware or anti spam for your computers. Make sure before you write anything check the sites privacy policy. The web is filled with scams.

Even though there are many dangerous things online you can be safe. I say before you send any message reread it. Always use digital etiquette, cyber bullying, and information privacy. Follow these rules about online safety and you will avoid anything bad online.