



What are Kids Doing Online and How Can We Help Them Be Safe?

Part 2

Contact Information:

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Web Resources:

- Internet Safety Resources Website for Fayette County Public Schools – <http://teach.fcps.net/isafe>
- I-SAFE – <http://www.isafe.org>
- Session handouts - <http://teach.fcps.net/trt2/pd.htm>

Examples of Cyber Bullying:

(Adapted from i-SAFE Materials)

- Threatening email
- Nasty instant messaging session
- Harassing text messages sent to cell phones
- Websites created to harass or pick on others
- “Borrowing” another person’s logon id and sending emails or messages in their name
- Forwarding or posting supposedly private emails, IM sessions, photos, videos
- Recording pictures or videos meant to harass or embarrass and posting those on public websites

Notes:

From Playground to Cyberspace... Cyber Bullying

Cyber Bullying Statistics

With the always-connected generation, e-mail, instant messages, message boards, blogs, Web sites, and cell phones give bullies a high-tech way to tease and threaten. Cyber bullying is no less severe than traditional playground bullying and is, in many instances, more psychologically harmful, with effects of longer duration. There is no escape. Cyber bullies are able to invade every facet of their victims' existence. It can be a 24/7 operation, permeating even the privacy of a bedroom.

i-SAFE surveyed students in grades 4 through 8 from all across the country on cyber bullying, and this is what they had to say:

- 42 percent of kids have been bullied while online. One in four has had it happen more than once.
- 35 percent of kids have been threatened online. Nearly one in five has had it happen more than once.
- 21 percent of kids have received mean or threatening e-mails or other messages.
- 58 percent of kids admit someone has said mean or hurtful things to them online. More than four out of 10 say it has happened more than once.
- 53 percent of kids admit having said something mean or hurtful to another person online. More than one in three has done it more than once.
- 58 percent of kids have not told their parents or an adult about something mean or hurtful that happened to them online.

**Based on an i-SAFE survey of 1,500 students in grades 4 through 8*

Cyber Bullying Tips for Students

- Tell a trusted adult about the bullying, and keep telling until you find an adult who takes action.
- Don't open or read messages from cyber bullies.
- Tell a teacher or administrator at your school if it is school related.
- Don't erase the messages—they may be needed to take action.
- Protect yourself: Never agree to meet face to face with anyone you meet online.
- If bullied through chat or instant messaging, the "bully" can often be blocked.
- If you are threatened with harm, inform the local police.

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