

THERE IS NO PRIVACY OUT THERE

Kids are now more exposed to risks of the Cyber World

What are the dangers kids face when they go online? Online predators steal peoples' identities, post inappropriate photos, pretend to be someone they are not, cyberbullying activities, etc. etc. If this happens to a kid, imagine the kind of overwhelming negative impact it can have on the kid's emotional and physical well-being.

It is generally felt that today's kids are smart, they know things and they are safe out there, but research suggests the opposite. The truth is that a very high majority of them face some serious risks whenever they head online. When the rubber hits the road, when it comes down to reality, kids are no better than the adults — they do make mistakes and often don't realize the dangers that lay ahead.

Everyone loves to share photos online, and no one wants to be a bore on social media. However, people who are not digitally literate, do not think about the possible implication of putting those photos online? Most people never consider what the risks are, but with so many things that can go wrong when using the Internet, it is important for everyone to be aware of these potential dangers and make an informed and careful decision.

The following list will give you some insight into the potential dangers as well as tips on how to stay safe online.



Keep your identity safe online - Turn off location services, Avoid posting personal information, and Use Private Browsing.

Protection from Cyberbullying - Filter content on social networking sites, ignore the comments and anything undesirable. Block them.

Protection from Online Predators - Keep your children away from unknown chat rooms, avoid talking to strangers online, and teach them to not respond to any emails they get from people they don't know.

Protection from Phishing Attacks - Never click links sent via email, Make sure you are on a secure site by looking for HTTPS:// in the URL before entering any sensitive information.

Protection from risks of posting sensitive information OR photos online - Disable the <u>geolocation</u> Disable GPS functionality on your PC/phone, Do not allow other people to post pictures of your children without your consent (make this non-negotiable), and similarly, do not post pictures of other kids without their Parent's consent

Educators and parents can do many things to ensure that kids are safe online. Whether it is teaching them about the risks, installing apps that help monitor their devices, or just talking to them about the dangers. One of the toughest challenges though is figuring out what exactly they are doing online. You can solve this by educating yourself on the important topics when it comes to kids, and what you can do about them to protect your kids from these problems.

Alternatively, enroll your kids in **COMPUDON Junior**, now in season III is a championship on digital literacy for kids 8-14 years of age. Through this championship, we help kids become digitally literate and how to stay safe online. Kids can participate through school and independently.

Questions/ Comments/ Want to know more about COMPUDON Junior, please write to prai@cyberlearningindia.com OR send a WhatsApp message to 95829 99887.

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