

Cybersecurity 2: Safeguards – At Home and Virtual Activities

Find out how to keep your online identity safe.

1. Create and protect a username.
2. Create and protect a password.
3. Discover how you share information and what to share.
4. Find out how information online can last forever.
5. Find out who is trustworthy online.



When you've earned this badge, you'll know how to protect your online identity and stay safe online. The activities below will help you complete three of the five steps for the badge!

Activity 1 (<i>Connects to Step 1: Create and protect a username</i>).	Username Make Up
Activity summary	Discover how to create a safe username to use online that does not use personal information.
Supplies needed	Writing utensil Index cards or paper A partner! (Family member, a friend you can call or video chat with adult permission, etc)
Instructions	<p><i>When you log on to a computer or website, you might need a user ID, also called a username or screen name, and a password.</i></p> <p><i>Your username is usually something anyone can see. Your password is not.</i></p> <p><i>One way to keep your information private is never to use your real name or private information as your username.</i></p> <p>If you have another family member around, buddy up, or video chat a friend or family member with a parent's permission.</p> <p>SAY:</p> <p><i>First, you will have one minute to interview each other. You can ask about a favorite animal, TV show, color, book, sport, or anything else you think is not private and OK to share online.</i></p>

	<p><i>When you finish your interviews, make up a username for your partner on the index card.</i></p> <p>You can repeat this process if you have multiple family members around.</p> <p>Then share the usernames you created for each other using the information your partner provided.</p>
Reflection/discussion questions	<p><i>Does this username reveal your identity?</i></p> <p><i>Does this username say anything private about you?</i></p> <p><i>If a stranger saw this username, would they know it's you?</i></p>

Activity 2 (Connects to Step 3: Discover how you share information and what to share).	Care to Share
Activity summary	Discover what situations you should/shouldn't provide personal information, and who you should/shouldn't share it with.
Supplies needed	Paper, writing utensil (optional)
Instructions	<p>SAY:</p> <p><i>I will call out a situation and you will raise your hand and say who you would share this information with, and who you wouldn't.</i></p> <p><i>The first situation is: You are lost and can't find your way home. Who would you share your address with?</i></p> <p>Girl might say: I would only share my address with a law enforcement person or teacher or someone I know is trustworthy. Answers can differ. Encourage a short discussion.</p> <p>Then, continue with next three situations.</p> <p><i>Situation #2: You see a stranger contacting your friend on her computer and you are worried she could be in danger. Who would you share this with?</i></p> <p><i>Situation #3: This person wants to know your birthday. Who would you tell?</i></p> <p><i>Situation #4: This person wants to know your phone number. Who would you give that to?</i></p> <p><i>How or why would these people ask for your information?</i></p>

	Girl might say: A teacher might need my login information for a school computer. My coach might need my address to send something to my parents.
Reflection/discussion questions	<i>Going online is like real life-there are people who you trust and know, and others that you don't. Just like in real life, you don't share information with people that are strangers when you're online.</i> If you have time, ask for other situations and play them out.

Activity 3 (<i>Connects to Step 4: Find out how information online can last forever</i>).	Toothpaste Trouble
Activity summary	Find out how easy it is to share information, but hard to retract it, through this toothpaste experiment.
Supplies needed	-Toothpaste or paint (<i>something in a tube that has to be squeezed in order to push out its contents</i>) -Plate -Plastic butter knife (optional – can also use fingers)
Link to online resources	GSUSA Internet Safety Pledge: https://www.girlscouts.org/en/help/help/internet-safety-pledge.html
Instructions	<i>Most information posted online is stored in something called the cloud. The cloud sounds like it would be up in the sky, but it's actually just a network of large computers or servers that are all connected. It's where all your online information is kept.</i> <i>That information is never deleted. That means your information can be found later.</i> <i>Let's explore just how hard it is to delete information online.</i> Collect toothpaste, a plastic butter knife, and plate. SAY: <i>When you send information online, it's like squirting out toothpaste-it's pretty easy to get it out there, right?</i> Squirt about an inch of toothpaste onto the plate.

	<p>SAY:</p> <p><i>Now I'm going to time you. I want you to try to get as much toothpaste back into the tube as you can, using your butter knife. Go!</i></p> <p>Time for 30 seconds. When you call time, there should be still a lot of toothpaste left on the plates.</p>
<p>Reflection/discussion questions</p>	<p><i>How easy was it to get it back in the tube?</i></p> <p><i>Information online is just like that toothpaste-it's easy to get it out, but almost impossible to get back. There will always be traces of information that you leave behind, no matter how hard you try to get it back into the tube.</i></p> <p><i>What type of information should you be careful about putting on the internet?</i></p> <p>Answers could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My private information such as my name, address, phone number, school name • My email address • My location • Anything private about someone else • Anything that would make someone else feel bad • Gossip • Anything embarrassing about me • Anything embarrassing about someone else • Bad words • Passwords • Pictures or videos I don't have permission to share • Vacation plans (telling others about your vacation plans will let them know that no one is home. That's information that shouldn't be shared.)

Keep it girl-led! These activities have helped you finish three of the badge's five requirements. When you're able, finish the last two requirements on your own, and you'll have earned the Junior Cybersecurity 2: Safeguards badge! Find the full requirements and Cybersecurity 2: Safeguards badge [here](#).