

## What can I do?

Keep computers in common rooms in the house, not behind bedroom doors.

Talk to your kids about the dangers of certain online behaviors.

Don't allow your child to post any personal information.

Check your child's email and chat names to make sure that they're not suggestive or personally identifying.

If your child has a MySpace account, make sure that it's private, meaning that access is granted only by your child.

Never allow your child to arrange a face to face meeting without your knowledge and explicit permission.

Be aware of gifts coming from strangers or hyper-concern about Internet access.

Make sure that your child understands that others can copy and paste your child's postings to other Websites—in the digital world, it can be impossible to retract an online posting.

<http://www.littletonpublicschools.net/>

## RESOURCES:

### Tips/Advice:

[www.wiredsafety.org](http://www.wiredsafety.org)  
[www.wiredkids.org](http://www.wiredkids.org)  
[www.cyberlawenforcement.org](http://www.cyberlawenforcement.org)  
[www.isafe.org](http://www.isafe.org)  
[www.ikeepssafe.org](http://www.ikeepssafe.org)

### Internet monitoring software:

[www.snapfiles.com/freeware/freeware.html](http://www.snapfiles.com/freeware/freeware.html)

Stealth Web Page Recorder

Spector Pro 5.0

Eblaster 5.0

***No product can substitute for active parenting***

MySpace.com and like social networking Web sites are not available on LPS networks and computers.

LPS  
INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Original source from this brochure comes from Hopewell Valley Schools, Pennington, New Jersey. Thanks for sharing!

## Internet Safety:

What Every Parent Should Know about Websites like MySpace, Xanga, Facebook, and LiveJournal.com



<http://www.littletonpublicschools.net/>

"I work at a flowershop, right down the road from my house"

"I like dancing in WaWa while wearing my belt sideways...cuz I'm just that cool"

"strangers have the best candy"

"I like beer better than hard alcohol"

"I drive a benz cuz that's how I roll"

*Language taken from kid's pages*

Like millions of adolescents across the country, children enrolled in Littleton Public Schools are drawn to the prospect of new friendships and social networking through popular Websites such as Facebook.com and MySpace.com. In fact, MySpace is one of the most visited Websites on the planet, boasting over 100 million subscribers. Almost 5% of all internet traffic is directed toward MySpace, with each visitor clicking on 38 MySpace pages per visit, on average. **There are 3000 registered users within 5 miles of the 80120 zip code.** (Source: www.Alexa.com)

#### ***What do kids post on MySpace?***

- Full Names
- Dates of Birth

- The schools that they attend
- The sports teams and clubs they're affiliated with
- Where they work
- The kind of car that they drive

In other words, kids are providing information about themselves to the entire world, not knowing their potential audience. Very recently, MySpace has begun blocking accounts held by registered sex offenders and turning the information over to law authorities.

(See [http://news.com.com/State+AGs+to+MySpace+Turn+over+sex+offender+data/2100-1028\\_3-6183619.html](http://news.com.com/State+AGs+to+MySpace+Turn+over+sex+offender+data/2100-1028_3-6183619.html))

Sexual predators and cyber bullies are not the only concerns adolescents should have about their online behavior. Increasingly, a number of college admissions board, employers, and scholarship foundations scan online networks like MySpace to see whether applicants appear...and how they appear. Even college enrolled students are facing consequences for online indiscretions.

(See: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/14325063/site/newsweek/>)

## **SEE FOR YOURSELF**

Sign on to [www.MySpace.com](http://www.MySpace.com) to see how easy it is for predators, potential supervisors, as well as friends to find our children.

Here's how:

1. Go to [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) and sign up for an email account. Use a false name and birth date.
2. Go to [www.MySpace.com](http://www.MySpace.com) and sign up, giving your newly created Yahoo account as your contact information.
3. On the MySpace toolbar, click on **Browse**, and search by age, gender, ethnicity, or geography.
4. Pretty easy, wasn't it.?

1 in 4 children received unwanted photos of nudity

1 in 7 children report being sexually solicited online

Source: *National Center for Missing and Exploited Children*

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