

Features of the NetSmartz Workshop

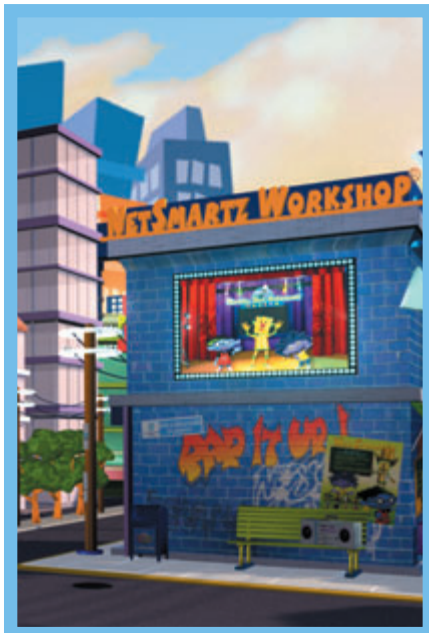
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Many resources are available to teach children and teens Internet safety. What makes the NetSmartz Workshop unique is its use of the latest technology and its availability to the public at no cost. Boys & Girls Club leaders, teachers, administrators, and children play vital roles in the design and development of the NetSmartz content, ensuring that it is effective and appealing to the respective age groups. The NetSmartz computer activities combine the newest technologies available and the most current information to create high-impact, interactive, educational activities that are well received by even the most tech-savvy kids.

The NetSmartz Workshop was developed by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) and Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) to teach children and teens, aged 5 to 17, how to be safer when using the Internet.

The goal of the NetSmartz Workshop is to extend the safety awareness of children to prevent victimization and increase self-confidence whenever they go online.

The NetSmartz Workshop is designed for home, school, and community use and can be used individually, in small groups, as a class, or even in a school assembly. Parents, educators, community leaders, and law enforcement can choose from a wide variety of resources including on- and offline activities, games, Internet safety pledges, news articles, and activity cards designed to supplement the NetSmartz online activities.



● *"NetSmartz has been a great addition to all our Clubs. It is a very positive way to teach our members about some very important issues."*

Tim Sheehan, Executive Vice President
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington (DC)

"The safety of our youth should be America's number one priority. We place our confidence in NetSmartz because it is the cutting edge for Internet safety for youth."

Jim Jenson, Executive Director
Boys & Girls Clubs of Great Salt Lake (UT)



**THE ACTIVITY CARDS
ENCOURAGE DISCUSSION
AND PARTICIPATION,
ALLOWING THE CHILDREN
AND TEENS TO ACTIVELY
APPLY THE INTERNET
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RATHER THAN TUNE
OUT A LECTURE.**

Recognizing the demanding lifestyles of today, NetSmartz designed its resources to require very little advanced preparation. The formats are easy to read and concise. The materials are electronic or can easily be downloaded and printed at your convenience.

The NetSmartz Workshop materials are adaptable. The activities can be used in any order and fit into almost any time frame; most computer activities are 3 to 5 minutes long and the activity cards occupy about 20 minutes of instruction time. Schools with limited technology resources can simply use the offline materials or connect a projector to a computer. The computer activities will run on both a Mac and PC.

Children respond well to the games and activities because they are computer-based and interactive. Teens watch attentively as they hear other teens tell about their real-life experiences. The activity cards encourage discussion and participation, allowing the children and teens to actively apply the Internet safety messages rather than tune out a lecture.

NetSmartz now offers an Internet safety presentation exclusively for BGCA and law enforcement to use to teach parents the basics of the Internet and increase their awareness of potential dangers. NetSmartz has also created interactive presentations designed for elementary-school assemblies.

"I reference materials from NetSmartz and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children at many of my presentations to school and community groups. The excellent web site provides information and materials geared to various age groups and provides an important community service."

Sergeant Frank Kardasz
Arizona Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force

"The growth of children utilizing the Internet has increased the need for Internet safety resources like NetSmartz. NetSmartz is an invaluable interactive resource for parents and educators that want to make a child's Internet experience a safer one."

Ernie Allen, President of NCMEC

SAFER ON THE INTERNET