

i-SAFE Questions & Answers (Q&A)

Q. What is i-SAFE?

A. i-SAFE is a nonprofit foundation whose mission is to educate and empower students, parents, seniors, and community members to safely and responsibly take control of their Internet experiences.

Q. How long has i-SAFE been around?

A. i-SAFE was founded in 1998 as a dynamic, prevention-oriented Internet safety awareness program. It has expanded since then to include plagiarism, theft of intellectual property, and cyber security. In 2002, the United States Congress designated i-SAFE to bring Internet safety education to the youth of this nation.

Q. What does i-SAFE do?

A. Through its education and outreach programs, i-SAFE empowers students, parents, seniors, and community members by providing knowledge that will enable them to recognize and avoid dangerous, destructive, or unlawful online behavior, and to respond appropriately. Through education, we provide age-appropriate K through 12 curriculum free of charge. Through outreach, we help with i-PARENT Boards and youth empowerment.

Q. What curriculum does i-SAFE provide?

A. We cover all Internet safety topics, including cyber community citizenship, predator identification, cyber security, plagiarism, and cyber bullying. Our curriculum is designed to foster active participation between students, their instructors, their parents, and their communities through discussion and cooperative group-learning activities.

Q. What is youth empowerment?

A. Youth empowerment is how i-SAFE helps students take action in their schools and communities. After attending i-SAFE assemblies or events, students are motivated to become student i-MENTORs. Student i-MENTORs work with peers and adults to create activities in their schools and communities to promote Internet safety.

Q. What is an i-PARENT Board?

A. An i-PARENT Board is comprised of concerned parents within a community. They recognize the dangers children face on the Internet and realize they cannot protect their children alone. They are advocates willing to help each other in an effort to help all.

Q. What tips can i-SAFE recommend for parents?

A.

- Talk to your kids about the dangers found online, and empower them to make wise decisions. Encourage them to come to you with any problems they encounter.
- Set rules for Internet usage, and make sure your kids follow them.
- Place the computer in a family section of your house. A computer with an Internet connection in the bedroom is an open door to a preventable disaster.
- Spend time with your children online.

Q. What tips can i-SAFE recommend for kids?

A.

- Never give personal information (name, sex, age, etc.) to anyone online.
- Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you met online without first discussing it with your parents or a trusted adult.
- If you run into trouble on the Internet, tell your parents immediately.
- Not everyone you meet online is who he or she says.

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