

## Internet Safety

Twenty years ago kids in school had never even heard of the internet. Now, I'll bet you can't find a single person in your school who hasn't at least heard of it. In fact, many of us use it on a regular basis and even have access to it from our homes! The 'net' in 'internet' really stands for network. A network consists of two or more computers connected together so that information can be shared or sent from one computer to another. The internet is a vast resource for all types of information. You may enjoy using it to do research for a school project, downloading your favorite songs or communicating with friends and family. Information is accessed through web pages that companies, organizations and individuals create and post. It's kind of like a giant bulletin board that the whole world uses! But since anyone can put anything on the internet, you also have to be careful and use your best judgment and a little common sense. Just because you read something on a piece of paper someone sticks on a bulletin board doesn't mean it's good information, or even correct, for that matter. So you have to be sure that whoever posted the information knows what they're talking about, especially if you're doing research! But what if you're just emailing people? You still have to be very careful. If you've never met the person that you're communicating with online, you could be on dangerous grounds! You should never give out any personal information to someone you don't know, not even your name! And just like you can't rely on the information on every website out there, you can't rely on what strangers you 'meet' on the internet tell you either. Just like you could make up things about yourself to tell someone, someone else could do the same to you!

Q.1 What does a network consist of?

Q.2 How is information accessed?

Q.3 what are the things you should never do when you are communicating online?

Q.4 list the things you can do with an internet?

Q.5 What is the most important thing to keep in mind while you are doing research?