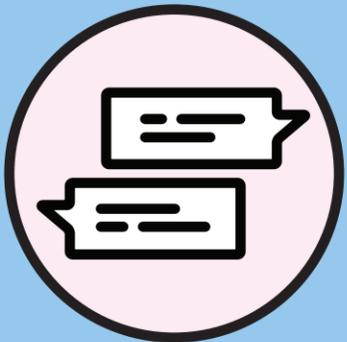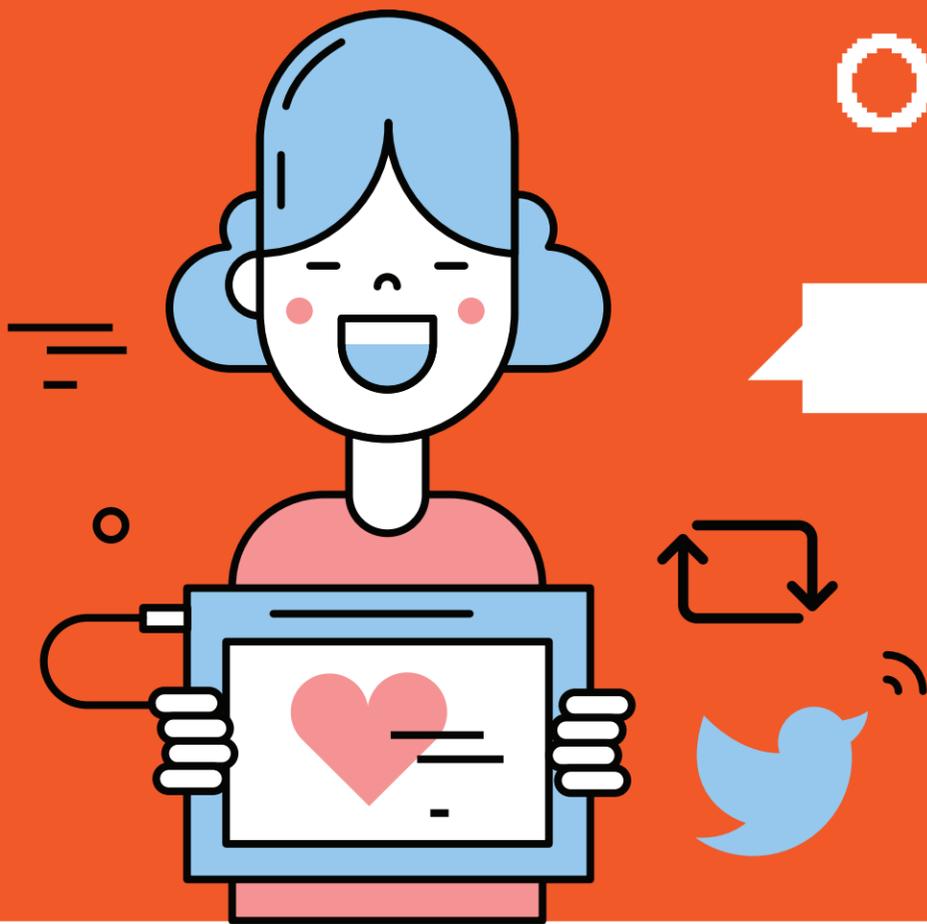# ONLINE SAFETY
FOR KIDS

Smart Social Sharing

Social networking sites, chat rooms, blogs etc. are how many socialize online; it's important to help your child learn how to navigate these spaces safely.

Remind kids that online actions have consequences: Once they post something, they cannot take it back -- if you delete something it lives online forever. Their posts, deleted or not, may be seen by a broader audience than they realize.

Limit what you share: Talk to your children about why it's important to keep some things to themselves. Information like social security numbers, phone numbers, and addresses should always be private. Utilize privacy settings to limit who has access to your kids' profiles.
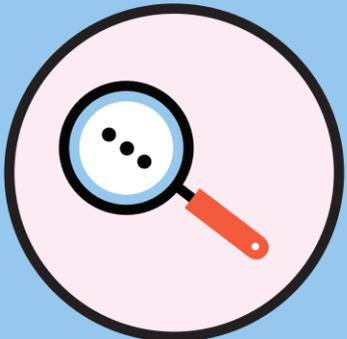
Talk about what your kids are doing online: Get to know the social sites your kids are using and search the sites to see what information they are posting or what activities they are involved with. You should also be looking at who they're friends with online and keep a close eye on who they're talking to.

Encourage your kids to trust their gut: Encourage your kids to tell you if they feel threatened or uncomfortable because of something online. Most social sites have links for users to report abusive, suspicious, or inappropriate behaviorso you can report posts, content, or users.

Do not assume all content labeled as kid friendly is safe: Keep an eye on what your kids are watching, reading, and viewing online. Online predators can bypass security measures and filters from sites, so be vigilant in checking material yourself.

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES