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PRIVACY AND SAFETY TIPS

- 1. Your Facebook experience begins with “Adding a Friend.” Before Adding a Facebook Friend, ask yourself: “Would I trust this person alone in my home with mine and my family’s most valuable possessions and information?” If they don’t pass the Trust test, don’t add them.**
- 2. Never, ever give your Facebook password out to anyone. Ever! Your Best Friend today might not be your best friend tomorrow.**
- 3. Remember that what you put on the Internet stays there forever. You can do your best to hide your information and pictures, but you can’t control who might see them. So, it’s best to post only positive words, comments and pictures. Facebook is all about choices; the choices you make reflect who you are, what you think about in the world, and what you value. And, other people will judge you based on the quality of the content you post, and comment on.**
- 4. Facebook lets you post personal information such as movies, music, your special interests, clubs you’re in, info “About Me,” and more. Facebook stores and can use your information so be careful not to add too much and especially no email addresses, telephone numbers, or your house address. Also, every word you add into the “Personal Information” section of “Edit Your Profile” turns into a searchable keyword on you. Less information is always safer.**
- 5. If you choose to add a fun application to Facebook like “Bumper Stickers” or “Greeting Cards,” you automatically give the developer of that application all of your information and photos – and all of your Facebook friends’ information, too.**
- 6. Don’t post any pictures or comments that are embarrassing of you or your friends that could lead to you, or them, being cyber-bullied. Your photos can be stolen and held by another person, and then used against you in the future, when you least expect it. Also, it’s unwise to “tag” your Friends in any photos as that photo will be sent out to their Friends’ list against their wishes.**
- 7. In your Privacy Settings under “Profile,” - “Photos Tagged of You,” set it to “Only Me.”**
- 8. You will have a job in a few years, or you’ll want to sign up to be a youth leader in a camp or other adventure. Many employers, colleges and universities and anywhere someone will want you to help them (summer camp, swimming instructor, dance instructor, etc) will check your Facebook profile to see what kind of material you are posting. Make sure it’s always positive.**
- 9. Always leave your Status Updates empty. Updating your status means you reveal where you are or what you’re doing, and any other information that a Facebook Friend or someone else can use.**
- 10. Never use your own picture as your profile picture. It can be easily copied and transferred to someone else’s computer and modified to embarrass you or ruin your reputation.**

11. Be careful of what you write or post on your Friend's Wall. Your Friend's Wall can be viewed by all of their Friends. Consider using the "Send a Message" function when communicating as it's safer and is private between you and your Friend only - and is not publicly displayed.

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