In today’s connected world it’s critical that our children understand how to be safe and responsible online.

To help you teach them the basics, the Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI) designed this flashcard deck which covers the key principles of digital citizenship.

Each card provides a simple definition and conversation-starter question to help your child learn and talk about digital citizenship.

After the conversation, we encourage you to visit www.fosi.org/parenting to learn more about everyday digital citizens using their power for good, and to find resources and tools to help everyone continue building skills.
DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP
Digital citizenship includes three key skills: safety, literacy, and responsibility.

- Educate yourself on the safety and privacy services for your favorite website, social network, or device.

- Understand the Web tools you’re using and where the information you access online comes from.

- Be responsible and practice good etiquette online: report abusive or harmful content, think before you post, and use your online power to make a positive impact.

START THE CONVERSATION WITH...

What does being a digital citizen mean to you?
ONLINE SAFETY
BE SAFE ONLINE

There are so many opportunities to explore, create, and do good online. But it’s important to keep yourself safe.

Make sure you use secure passwords that are easy for you to remember but hard for others to guess, and check for software updates regularly to ensure you have the most up-to-date security for your system.

Surf safely and remember the three C’s: avoid contact with strangers, consider the content of your message, and conduct yourself responsibly online.

START THE CONVERSATION WITH...

What are you doing to keep yourself safe online?
ONLINE PRIVACY
An important part of digital citizenship is privacy – knowing what you share and with whom. Review your privacy settings regularly and make sure you’re not sharing anything online you don’t want others to see, including personal information a stranger could use to identify you.
Online, you have certain rights to privacy, safety, and security. You have the right to have your personal information protected and secured; to report offensive or threatening content; and to educate yourself about staying safe online.

START THE CONVERSATION WITH...

What do online rights mean to you?
ONLINE RESPONSIBILITIES
BE RESPONSIBLE ONLINE

Being a good digital citizen means applying the standards of behavior we follow in the real world to the digital world.

Just like you would report an accident you saw in real life, you should report problems, abusive behavior, inappropriate images, or content online. Stand up for yourself when issues arise and help others if they are in need.

START THE CONVERSATION WITH...

What do you do when you see behavior or content online that may be inappropriate?
DIGITAL & MEDIA LITERACY
Being able to judge and make decisions about the information that’s accessible through your devices is a key part of being a digital citizen. With so much content just a click away, critical thinking skills – recognizing suspicious emails, websites, or online advertising – are important parts of successfully navigating the online world.

START THE CONVERSATION WITH…

How can you tell when something online is suspicious?
DIGITAL FOOTPRINT
Your digital footprint includes more than what you post online, it also includes how you interact with others. Before you post, share, or comment, ask yourself if it’s something you’re okay with friends, family, teachers, or potential employers seeing or knowing about you.

Also, remember to update and look through your online profiles regularly to know what content you are sharing and with whom.

START THE CONVERSATION WITH...

If someone found a profile of yours online, what would they say about you?
POWER FOR GOOD
You have the power to do incredible things online. From complimenting a friend to starting a movement to drive positive change, the possibilities to do good are endless.

START THE CONVERSATION WITH...

What are some ways you can use your online power for good?
UNPLUG
Knowing when to stay connected, and when to turn off your device is part of being a good digital citizen. Though technology can be an amazing tool for learning, growing, and creating social change, sometimes you need to unplug.

START THE CONVERSATION WITH...

Why is it important to take breaks from technology?
Did you just have the conversation?

Go show others what it means to be a good digital citizen!

Want to continue the conversation?

Don’t wait, visit www.fosi.org/parenting to find resources, hear from others, or simply learn more about being a good digital citizen.
Learn more about Family Online Safety Institute at www.fosi.org.