



Cyber4Kids

LESSON 8. Magical passwords

Following these cybersecurity tips, you will become a Cyber Superhero and activate a magical object - THE CHEST OF WISDOM! In it you can safely keep mega-strong passwords, which no cybercriminal will discover!



- 1 STRONG PASSWORDS.** Do not use simple words (eg Minecraft, chocolate, StarWars) or consecutive numbers (123456) in passwords. And NO, the word "password" is not a good password at all! A strong password must be longer, at least 8 characters, and more complicated. Mix in uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and symbols.
- 2 FUNNY PASSWORDS.** Take out the first letters of each word from a funny sentence you create, which you can easily remember, and enter numbers and symbols. For example, from the sentence "The rabbit and the cat saw two movies at Cinema" you will get this mega strong password – **Tr&tcs2m@C.**

T The	r rabbit	& and	t the	c cat
s saw	2 two	m movies	@ at	C Cinema
- 3 NO PERSONAL DATA.** Do not include in your passwords your name, date of birth, parents' name, telephone number or any other personal data that others may know or guess.
- 4 SECRET PASSWORDS.** Don't tell your passwords to anyone except your parents! Even your best friends might be tempted to make a joke and use them to access your accounts, pretending to be you. And never write down passwords in a place that is easy for someone else to find (notebooks, post-its, etc.).
- 5 DIFFERENT PASSWORDS.** Don't use the same password everywhere! It is good to have a different one for each account (games, Facebook, YouTube Instagram, TikTok or email). Using the same password for multiple accounts is like having the same key for each door. If a cybercriminal steals or copies the key, each door (account) will be vulnerable.

PARENTS 'PAGE



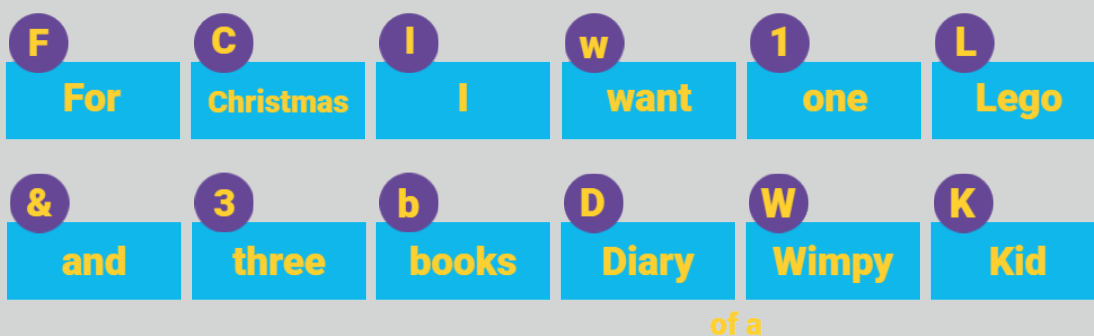
1. **"THREE LITTLE PIGS", PASSWORD VERSION.** To better understand the differences between a weak, a medium and a strong password, respectively the importance of the latter, you can explain these things to your child using the reinterpretation of a story (a movie or real-life situations - according to your inspiration and imagination). We propose "The three little pigs", in which the wolf becomes the cybercriminal and the three houses built become:

- **weak password** (straw house) - extremely easy to break or guess. Examples: password123, qwerty, andrew111;
- **medium password** (twigs house) - a higher degree of difficulty, but not impossible to guess, whether we are talking about people who know the child or malicious software (keylogger, screen scraper) used by cybercriminals. Example: ILoveLego, Andrew2o2o;
- **strong password** (stone and brick house) - a high degree of difficulty, allowing to keep accounts and personal information safe. Example: Ilg@C&sHPm, FC1w1L&3bDWK.



2. **THE GAME OF MAGICAL PASSWORDS.** Turn the creation of strong passwords (several, different for each account) into a game that you play together periodically - passwords should be changed at least once every 6 months. Let the child come up with simple and funny sentence ideas that he/she can easily remember, and then guide him/her on how to get strong passwords by extracting the first letter of each word and inserting numbers and symbols.

We got the above examples from the sentences "I like going to Cinema and see Harry Potter movies" (Ilg@C&sHPm) and "For Christmas I want one Lego and three books Diary of a Wimpy Kid" (FC1w1L&3bDWK). And change the passwords for Easter!



3. **BUT IT'S MY PASSWORD!** It is very possible that your kid will not understand why you should know his/her passwords (after all, they should be secret, shouldn't they?). Or he/she will not be happy that you will have access to his/her online activity. Make your child understand that his safety, including in the virtual environment, is your duty as a parent.

And just because you have the passwords for his accounts, it doesn't mean you'll use them to keep track of everything he /she does online. In fact, even at home, the child can keep the door of his room closed and you could knock before entering. But it is not permissible for you, as a parent, not to have access.