Cyber4Kids

LESSON 5.
The Internet never forgets!

By following these security tips, you will become a Cyber Superhero and you will activate a magical object – THE DIARY OF ADVENTURES! You can log unforgettable memories and it will help you show others great things about you!

1 **THE INTERNET NEVER FOREGETS!** Even if you change or delete what you post online (comments, pictures and videos, messages, etc.), there will be people who have already seen what you published. Maybe they even downloaded, sent to someone else or took a screenshot (a picture) of what you posted. Deleting information from the Internet does not mean that it disappears forever!

2 **FUN!?** Posts that seem okay to you now may not seem as fun when you grow up. Neither to you nor to anyone else - because anyone will be able to find whatever you posted, 10 or even 20 years ago, judge you or laugh at you! Those who don't know you will be able to find online a lot of information about you and make a wrong opinion!

3 **WOULD I DO THIS IN REAL LIFE?** Each time you want to post something ask yourself whether:

• Would you make the same joke, use the same words, and say the same things about a person if you were face to face with them?
• Would the pictures and videos with you posted online seem fun to your parents as well? What do you do in them is fair and polite?
• Would you tell a stranger you meet on the street your name, where you live, information about your family, accept gifts and go with him anywhere?
If the answer is no, then do **NOT** do all this just because you are behind a phone, tablet or computer.

PARENTS' PAGE

1. WHAT YOU POST ONLINE (DIGITAL FOOTPRINT) MATTERS. Explain to your child the importance of a digital footprint - every online action is associated with a digital record, which is stored online for access at any time - by us and, most importantly, by anyone else.
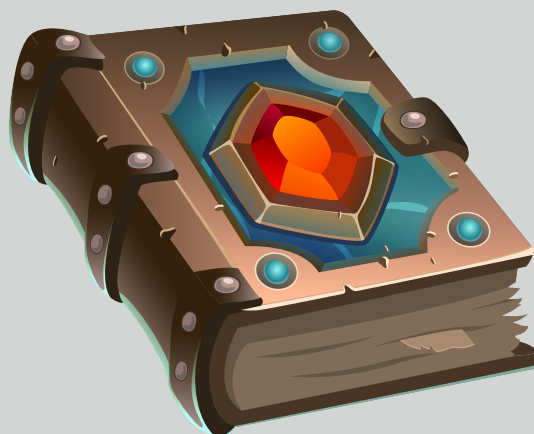
From text posts and media files that aren't exactly "inspired" on social media, to personal data published and indexed online - every piece of information contributes to the way we are perceived, with potential negative repercussions in the medium and long term.

For example, multiple colleges and companies search the Internet before accepting candidates, and information about us can be found by any foreigner, more or less well-intentioned. Maintaining a positive reputation both online and offline is essential!

2. WHY THE INTERNET NEVER FORGETS? Carry out a small test together so that your child understands the power of the Internet to remember - type in your name or that of a known person in a search engine and then browse the results together.

You will notice that a wide range of information is covered - from posts, images, videos, to comments and any other activities on websites.

However, the most important thing is to understand that removing this digital content can be from very simple (with a simple click on the "Delete" option) to very difficult (asking search engines or website owners to do it), to the point of impossibility - we have almost no control over how the online community uses our published data and content (who downloads, copies or makes it available elsewhere).

3. IS IT REALLY FUN? There are many situations in which posting certain photos, videos or comments had negative effects for their "owners". The impulses of the moment and the opinions of the past can turn against us in a few years.

Some edifying examples in this regard, which can be given to the child, to better understand the risks to which he / she is exposed when posting anything, without applying a "filter":

• images or movies published on social channels in various ways that do not benefit him / her, socially unacceptable or out of context (gone viral, turned into memes, digitally processed);

• insulting posts or vulgar language.

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