

DIGITAL SAFETY SKILLS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN



Children need digital safety skills when they use smart devices and do things online.

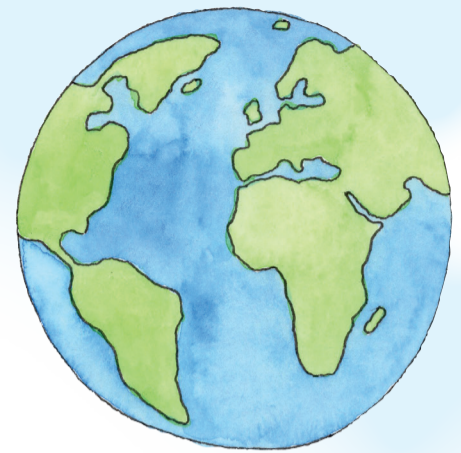


The body is important

- Children are interested in the body, nudity, and pee and poo. Children explore and are curious about them.
- Talk openly about everything that interests the child.
- Talk about the entire body in a respectful tone. Name all body parts to children.
- Children also learn about the body by using smart devices.

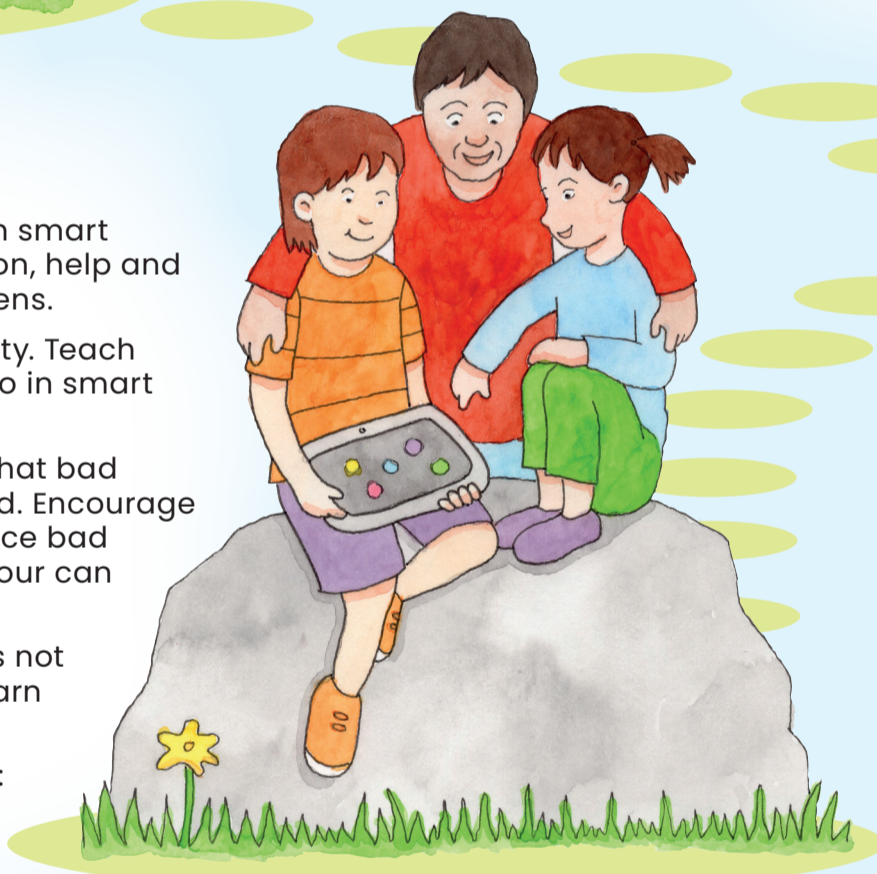
Connected to the whole world

- There are smart devices in children's lives, such as phones, tablets, TVs, game consoles and smartboards.
- Pictures, videos, sounds and writings can spread worldwide in a second.
- A smart device never connects just two people. Everything can be shared with one click.
- A picture of a belly button or a butt can spread widely and stay on the internet forever.



Right to be safe

- Bullying is not allowed even on smart devices. Adults provide protection, help and comfort if something bad happens.
- Kind behaviour promotes safety. Teach children to include everyone also in smart device groups.
- Guide children and tell them that bad behaviour must not be approved. Encourage children to tell adults if they notice bad behaviour. This way bad behaviour can be stopped.
- Everything on smart devices is not true. Practice with children to learn what is true and what is not.
- Teach children this safety rule: say no, go away and tell a trusted adult.



Talking about feelings

- Encourage children to tell about the feelings they experience while using smart devices. What is funny, worrying, interesting and scary? Talking about feelings helps and brings joy.
- Having crushes is normal for children. Discuss with children how they can recognise a reliable friend. Tell them how they can show affection in a safe and good way while using smart devices.
- Tell children beforehand what to do if they are cheated. Encourage them to tell an adult. Do not get angry with them, but rather discuss things.



Protecting privacy

- Tell children that nobody can be photographed without their consent. Children do not have to allow if somebody wants to take a picture of them.
- Nudity is private. Private body parts should not be photographed. Genitals, butts and breasts are your own valuable body parts.
- Encourage children always to tell an adult if they see a nude picture or a picture of a private body part. Encourage them to ask for help if somebody asks them for a picture of these body parts.



SUA VARTEN SOMESSA

Lisätietoa:

suavartensomessa.fi

vaestoliitto.fi/kehotunnekasvatus