

Internet, Facebook, and the world around it

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Internet - Ask yourself these questions

- What does it mean to you?
- What do your children do on the computer?
- When are they on the computer?
- How long are they on the computer?
- Where is the computer situated in your home?
- Who monitors their email/internet usage?

Facebook – What is it?

- Facebook helps you connect and share with the people in your life – *Facebook home page*
- Wikipedia says: **Facebook**, formerly **Thefacebook**, is a free-access social networking website that is operated and privately owned by Facebook, Inc. The website currently has more than 175 million active users worldwide. Facebook has met with some controversy over the past few years. It has been blocked intermittently in several countries. It has also been banned at many places of work to discourage employees from wasting time using the service. Privacy has also been an issue, and it has been compromised several times.

Facebook and our kids

- Have friends of different ages, different genders
- Put up pictures of each other, and comment on them. Not all comments are desirable
- Write on WALLS on the account that everyone can read
- Update Status, so that everyone knows where you are/ can be at all times, which can be dangerous

Messenger/Cell Phone

- Yahoo! IM – Windows IM – Gtalk – Children spend hours chatting online. Sometimes with people they don't even know.
- Cell Phone usage: Parents should monitor where/when their children are calling or texting. Middle school children send hundreds of text message per week, sometimes to children of opposite genders in their own classes and flirt with each other.