

# Setting the rules

As a family you will discuss and agree upon a set of rules that you will follow when using devices and going online at home.

30 MINS

EASY

AGES 10+

ACTIVITY TYPE: DISCUSSION



Image: [Pixabay](#)

# You will need ...

- Computer, tablet or smart phone
- Pen or paper (optional)

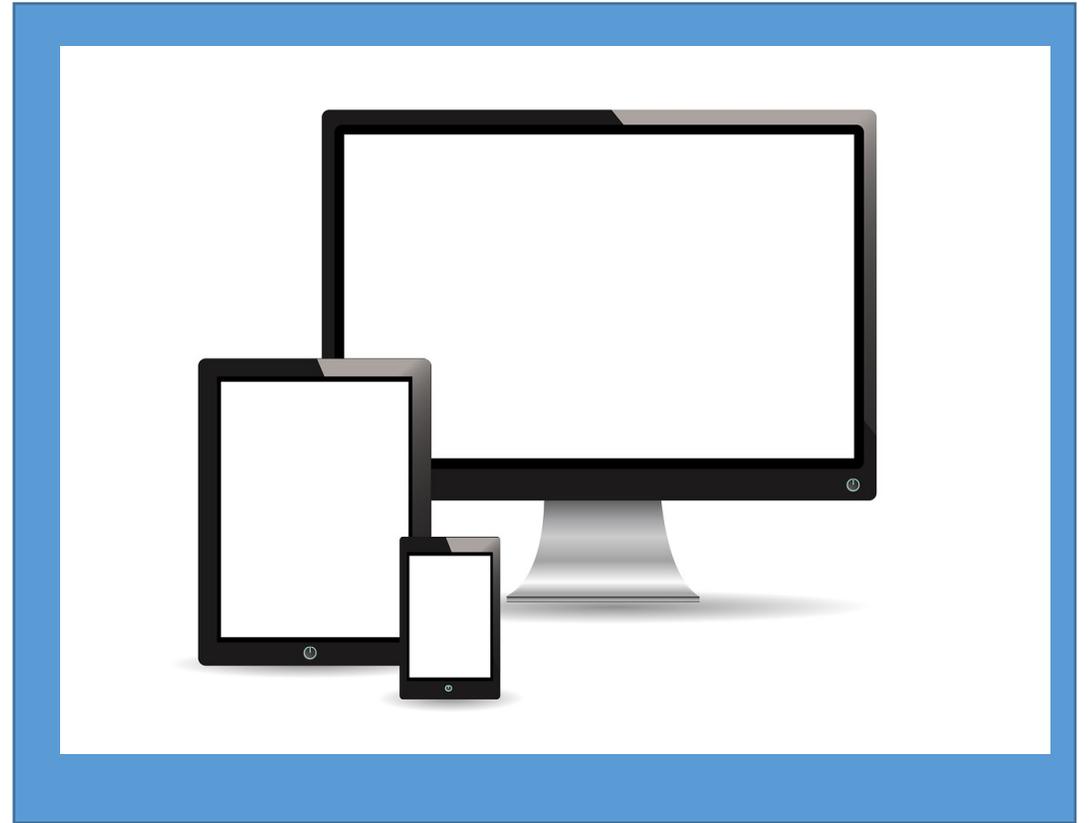


Image: [Pixabay](#)

# About the activity

- This activity will help you identify and discuss some of the issues that may occur when using technology and communicating online.
- Together as a family you will create a list of rules that you can use to help guide technology usage within your home.



Image: [Pixabay](#)

# 1 Let's get started

- As a family, watch the Australian Government film [Act eSafe](#).
- As you watch, make notes about the important e-security and e-safety issues that are raised in the animation, especially in relation to online communication.

**Tip:** Feel free to stop the video as you watch it and talk about what is happening.

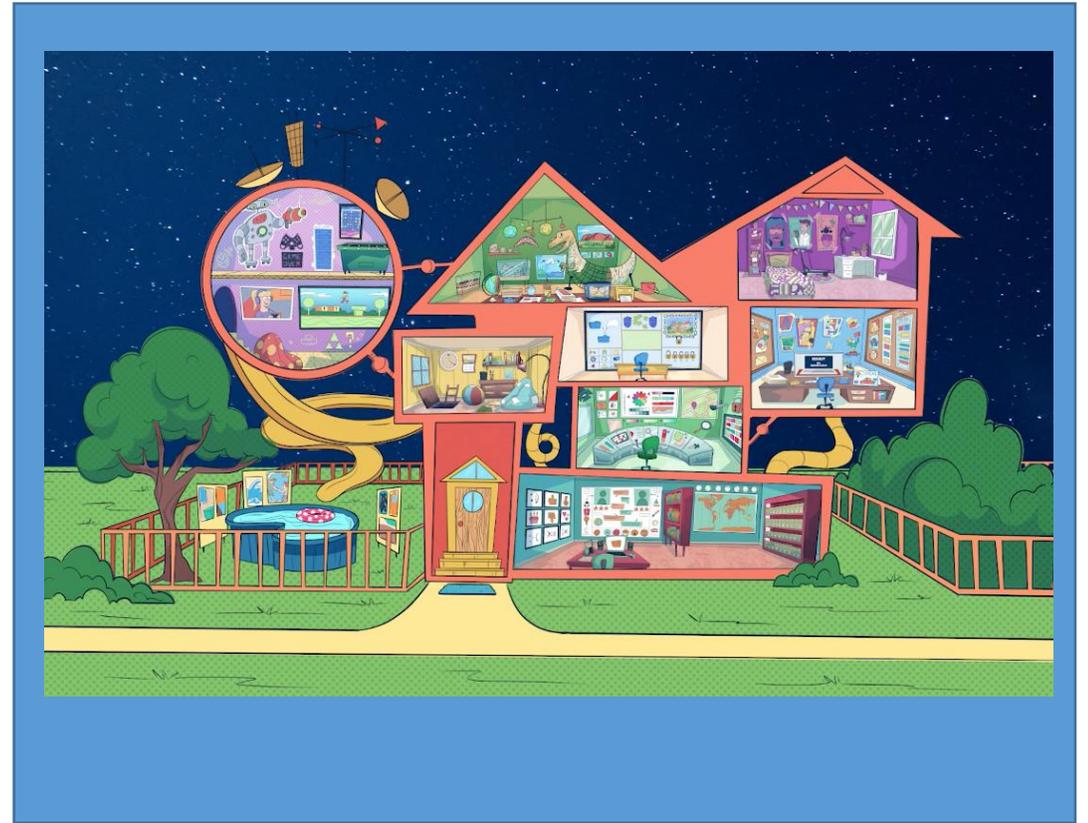


Image: Office of the eSafety Commissioner

## 2 Let's get started

- As a family, think and talk about how you use technology at home.
- Brainstorm some of the potential problems that may arise when online. You might like to include the following topics in your conversation:
  - Social networking
  - Privacy
  - Balancing time online
  - Online gaming
- Discuss what you could do if you encountered a problem, especially an ethical dilemma, and who you could talk to about the issue.



Image: [Pixabay](#)

**Tip:** If stuck for ideas, re-watch the movie in Step 1.

### 3 What's next?

Using a computer, tablet, smart phone or paper, make a list of rules to encourage safe use of technology, especially when communicating online.

**Tip:** When creating the rules, you may like to think about three concepts – conduct, language and content. These could form the basis for your rules and could be used to help solve ethical dilemmas.



Image: [Pixabay](#)

# 4 Congratulations!

- You have successfully created a set of rules to help guide you while using technology.
- Display the list somewhere central in the house so you are able to refer back to it when necessary or use it when trying to resolve a technological ethical dilemma.

**Tip:** You might like to get all members of the family to sign the set of rules.



Image: [Pixabay](#)

# An ethical dilemma: What's that?

- An ethical dilemma is the need to choose from two options, neither of which solves the situation in an ethical way.
- An example of an ethical dilemma is:
  - You come across money sticking out of an ATM but there is no one around. Is it right to take the money?
- Technology-related examples include:
  - Plagiarism
  - Online privacy
  - Real-time satellite surveillance video
  - Wearable technology



Image: [Pixabay](#)

# Why are we learning about this?

- A digital citizen is someone with the knowledge and skills to effectively use digital technologies to communicate with others, participate in society and create and consume digital content.
- By educating children about digital citizenship, they will have the opportunity to develop an understanding about concepts such as internet safety, privacy, and appropriate online etiquette and communication.

To find out more, go to the [Digital Technologies Hub](#) or the parent section of the Australian Government's [e-Safety](#) website.