



THE DAY
FIND YOUR VOICE

NEWS DETECTIVES

TODAY'S NEWS STORY

Five top tips for staying safe online

KEYWORDS

- ☐ **Bullying:** Making others feel upset or unsafe
- ☐ **Digital footprint:** The information about us that exists online
- ☐ **Employer:** People who provide jobs
- ☐ **Downtime:** Time away from doing something



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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Monday 30 June is World Social Media Day, a chance to think about the huge impact social media has had on our daily lives. Social media has changed the way we communicate and connect, creating opportunities but also dangers.

With 95% of US teenagers now using social media, how can we make the most of the opportunities it provides to learn, explore and share while staying safe from its real dangers?

Golden rule

Treat social media just like your offline relationships. Treat other social media users as you would like to be treated yourself, and expect the same from them.

Remember that the rules in the real world — around things like

bullying and strangers — also apply online.

Know the risks

Every time you go online, you leave a **digital footprint** that lasts forever and shows others what you've been doing. Before you post, ask yourself if it's safe for others to have that information.

And remember that anything you post today could come back to bite you later. Would you want a future **employer** to see it? Is there a chance you might

regret what you shared in the future?

Keep the balance

Sometimes, we can have too much of a good thing. The internet is a great source of learning and entertainment — but there's a whole world out there to enjoy as well.

A good way to make sure you strike the right balance is to make sure you have **downtime** from your screen every day, completely separate from your phone or computer.



INVESTIGATION OF THE DAY

IS SOCIAL MEDIA WORTH THE RISKS?

WHAT
do you leave by
going online?

WHO
could see your
posts in
the future?

WHERE
do the same
rules apply?

WHEN
does your
digital footprint
disappear?

WHY
is screen-free
downtime
beneficial?

HOW
many teens
now use social
media?

1 CHECK YOUR FACTS

Make sure you have all the facts before you start your investigation. Can you answer these questions?

2 KNOW YOUR KEYWORDS

Can you remember what these keywords mean? Match the word to the correct meaning.

1=D

2=

3=

4=

1. Bullying

2. Digital footprint

3. Employer

4. Downtime

A. Time away from doing something

B. People who provide jobs

C. The information about us that exists online

D. Making others feel upset or unsafe

3 LOOK AT ALL SIDES

There's always more than one side to every story. How might the people involved feel about the story?



Social media companies



People who don't use the internet



Parents



People who find a balance



Happy



Sad



Calm



Excited



Surprised



Angry



Scared



Bored



Disgusted



Confused

4 DISCUSS THE QUESTION

Is social media worth the risks?

What do you think?
Use the speaking prompts here to help you get started.

I disagree with...

I agree with...

I'm not sure about...

I'd like to know more about...

I think that...

I don't think that...



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5 REPORT BACK

Write, present or record a report that communicates your view. Share this with your class, family and friends. What's their opinion?