

GUARDIANS OF THE NET



BECOME A DIGITAL SUPERHERO

**A FUN AND FEARLESS GUIDE
TO HELP YOU **STAY SAFE,**
SPOT DANGER, AND **STAND**
STRONG ONLINE.**



WELCOME, SUPERHERO!

Hey there, **recruit!**

You've just joined the
Guardians of the Net

We're a team of digital
superheroes, and we protect
kids just like you from the
sneaky stuff online.

In this book, you'll learn
how to **stay smart, strong,
and safe** – just like a true
Guardian!



WHAT IS SOCIAL MEDIA?

Social media is where we chat, share, and post pictures.

It's platforms like
WhatsApp, **TikTok** and
Snapchat.



It's fun, but not everyone on there is a real friend.

I'm here to show you how to stay safe while still having a blast!



WHO ARE YOU REALLY TALKING TO?

Some people pretend to be kids when they're not.

That's **called catfishing**.

They might use fake pictures or lie about who they are.

Look for clues – I'll teach you how to spot them!



RED FLAGS TO WATCH FOR



- 1.They won't show their real face.
- 2.They ask you to keep secrets.
- 3.They want to chat on different apps.
- 4.They say things that feel weird or creepy.

If something feels off, it probably is. Report it and talk to an adult!



WHEN SOMEONE ASKS FOR **PRIVATE** **PICTURES**

Sometimes, someone might ask you to send private pictures or they may send ones that make you feel uncomfortable.

That's **NEVER** okay.

It's not your fault. People who do this are in the wrong – not you.

You have the power to say **NO** and tell a grown-up right away. My shield protects you – and so does speaking up.



TRUST YOUR GUT

If you feel confused,
nervous, or weird about a
message, trust your gut!

That's your brain's way of
saying something's wrong.

It's okay to feel unsure.
You're not alone.

Walk away. Close the app.
Talk to someone you trust.



BLOCK AND REPORT

This is my thing! If someone's bothering you, you can **BLOCK** them. That stops their messages.

Then **REPORT** them – let the app and your parents know something happened. That's how you protect yourself and others.

You are never in trouble for asking for help.



NEVER KEEP **BAD** SECRETS

Good secrets = birthday surprises.

Bad secrets = things that make you feel scared or weird.

If someone says, "Don't tell anyone"... that's a bad secret.

Tell an adult right away.

You'll feel better once you do – promise!

SAY **NO** LIKE A **SUPERHERO**



Remember: Being brave isn't about fighting,
it's about speaking up!

WHO CAN YOU TALK TO?

Here's a superhero circle of trust:



MOM OR DAD
TEACHER
GRANDPARENT
SCHOOL COUNSELOR



You are never alone.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU REPORT?

Reporting **helps keep others safe**. The app might block the bad person.

Sometimes, grown-ups like the police help out to make sure kids stay safe.

It's not tattling – it's superhero stuff!

You're doing the right thing.

DRAW YOURSELF AS A GUARDIAN!

What's your superhero name?



THE 5 RULES OF ONLINE SAFETY

- 1 Don't talk to strangers online.
- 2 Never share your personal info.
- 3 Say NO to weird messages or pictures.
- 4 Block and report bad people.
- 5 Always talk to a trusted adult.

QUIZ TIME!

1.True or False: You should keep secrets from your parents if someone online tells you to. _____

2.What should you do if a stranger messages you?

3.Name one person you can talk to if you're scared.

**DRAW YOUR SAFETY
BADGE HERE!**

Your superhero badge

CONGRATULATIONS!



YOU are a Guardian of the Net!

THANK YOU FOR LEARNING HOW TO BE A **DIGITAL SUPERHERO**

Now go out there and
protect your digital world!

GUARDIANS
OF THE **NET**



www.guardiansofthenet.co.za