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DFWEverything Family

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Today's youth face unique threats to an innocent childhood: Predators on the Internet. Unsavory instant messages (IMs) from your daughter's so-called "stends." The thill of the Iodeol game. Parents today know that the more connected our kids are to the world at large, the more opportunities there are for them to wander — or to be led — astray. We know we need eyes in the back of our heads.

"Ming, cell phones, e-mail and the like afford parents tremendous peace of mind when it comes to contacting their children," says 'Unit Country, author of Logged in and Turnet Out. A Non-Techel's Guide to Parenting at "Toch-Savy Comensor." For example, I chair have to keep a list of my lotd freefort immers in order to track them down or worry that my daughter is running a term mindes take after confess. I can did their marbor or chair that the confess of the confess

The goal is not to catch your child doing something bud" It is not just their cell plones that some bids can't, seem to stake. These lods are tracked and momented— somethines with their knowledge, momented— somethines with their knowledge, the seem to stake the somethines with their knowledge, the seem to see the seem to be seen to see the seem to seem to see the seem to see the seem to seem to see the seem to see the seem to

"Most people use devices out of curiosity," explains Todd Morris, CEO of BrickHouse Security. They want to see what happens when they're not there. A lot of it comes down to peace of mind."

Even when parents turn to heavy-handed forms of monitoring in response to situations where there's at least a grain of doubt, Morris notes that the goal is not to catch your child doing something bad.

Find the Right Allies Online support, software and devices can help you set limits and create safe boundaries — even when you're not there.

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'The goal is to say, 'Wow, what a good job shi doing," he explains. "Then you feel good, you work more productively, and you go home and enjoy your time with your children."

uutney rates the importance of monitoring a little more strongly along the scale of parental must-dos. 'In my minds, too musch is at stake not to," she declares. "To me, it seems irresponsible for parents not to monitor at their clificher are doing, especially only mush submissions with the order on the five children between the ages of and 15 have been solicited for sex online."

sid. Country recommends that monitoring uthness and schemicary only be used to specificate, a solid to be easier they not becoming bundless and relate. Thesets have a right to know which thick pile is, "she affirms, "and now that we have be sen removed as the "gatekeeper to the home phone, we must be now that the child's every movement online and scour their messages to find or personal draits (crusher, he-wak-ups, standard praken fourtainons, etc.) need to examine their real motion in employing monitoring devices."

Among the younger set, physical tracking devices set off an alam when look wander too far from powerts at parks, conceys stores and shopping malls. They are mailable to penests of children's hosping malls. They are mailable to penests of children's hosping malls. They are mailable to penests of children's hosping mailable to the special seeds. Developed by the penests of the penests and beautiful the penests of the penests

"No date col attentions."

Personing schoolings is distinstity not technical at all, claims Sharon Cindich, author of E-parenting Schoolings is distinstity and technical at all, claims Sharon Cindich, author of E-parenting Schoolings (b) With Your Tech-Savey Kirds, it moless applying the basic parenting strategies we all apply to other areas of our children's lines in lints, boundaries, consequences and conservation," the popular in Person seed to set limits on time, apply boundaries, enforce consequences when limits and boundaries are crossed and talk early and often should be supplied of the childings.

It's beyond this point that experts disagree. Condrich believes that tracking should never be a violation of trust and pracey. Yet's should never be tracked without their knowledge," the assert. Plevents should require that concludes any disabilities. Regularises of that rings of their product tasks for holds to learn to establishing and earn respect. OPS is not a substitute for good preserving the constitution.

Getting both Tracking Track Get the Right Tracking Tools Track down the kids and check up on what they're doing wi these James Bond-esque tools.

Others don't see it that way. Morris advocates monitoring without letting on to the child. If there is a problem, they're not going to tell you." he points out. "You want them to feel like you've given them the freedom to go climb a tree — but you're still watching."

Ultimately, parents have to weigh the pros and cons of monitoring their kids—with or without their knowledge—on their own. There's no clear out answer on keeping things secret, "notes thinkheal Dear of Sy Cettre, a security gear provider with several Datlas-area locations." Most change. Something's different it anything is changed, it's time to check out what's going on."

GPS systems
Some are small enough to fit inside backpacks or pockets a allow you to track your kids in real time.

Intelligent prickhousesecurity com/, http://www.gpsnenny.

Alltrack
Automically receive skirts if your teen driver crosses pre-set
boundaries or speeds and even allows you to remotely honk the
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hear of the thing the suffery of the control of the
behavior. Hithuriese allies/cuse control
Check with your provider for details on the device.
Keyloggers
Small devices record every keystrale your child makes on the
frenity compact no you can see exactly where she went and

Keyloggers
Shall devices record every keystroke your child makes on the family computer, so you can see exactly where she went and what she said (*Thip Times* advencedomeration) SIM card readers.

Wou don't have to be a technological whiz:
The soprits do agree on one thing present
The source of t

You don't have to be a technological whiz. "We find parents are less computer-literate than their children," explains filchael Calilahan of Bodellet, a Plano-based company that offers a safe computer desixtop environment for young children They rutuming over the controls to their kids. We've made parental controls very simple for this reason. It has to be simple, for parents with limited time, and convenient."