

Strong Passwords

*** DID YOU KNOW ...**

One of the most commonly used passwords is "qwerty," and this is NOT a secure password! (Can you figure out why so many people might use this password? Hint: Try typing it out on a computer keyboard.)

Unjumble to find the hidden words

1. srteiuycy _____
2. etatopecxin _____
3. bolbhaipirgy _____
4. pawrossd ptriooectn _____
5. rodnam _____
6. seeocrn nmae _____

*** WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

How can we remind ourselves, other students, and our families to keep passwords secure?

*** DO YOU REMEMBER ...**

How a secure password helps you protect your private information?

1. Family Activity

With a family member, review the Common Sense dos and don'ts of creating a safe password. Then, pick your favorite cartoon character and draw a picture of him or her on a piece of paper. On the back of the paper, make a list of personal information (interests, fun facts) about the character and use it to make up a safe and secure password for your character. Check that you haven't included any PRIVATE information -- only use personal information. Next, try to come up with a story to remember the password.

2. Tech It Up!

DinoPass (<http://www.dinopass.com/>) is a password generator for kids that has two options: SIMPLE passwords and STRONG passwords. Try generating at least three of each and write them down. With a family member, see if you can spot a pattern to figure out the difference between the STRONG and the SIMPLE passwords. Together, come up with at least one pro and one con of using each type of password.

3. Common Sense Says ...

Smart and safe passwords: 1). have at least eight characters; 2). use a combination of letters, numbers, and symbols; and 3). aren't easy for other people to guess! Passwords should NOT have private information in them, such as your full name (first and last), date of birth, mother's maiden name, street address, school name or address, credit card number, phone number, or social security number.