






Shepardson STARS Tips for Chats



Remember Shepardson's Respect Code! *Respect Self, Others, World*

Anything you post **has** to pass this question test: *Is it true? Is it kind? Is it necessary?*
If what you are going to post doesn't pass this test, then don't post it.

- ★ **Respect your online friends.** All of them. Everyday!
- ★ **AVOID TYPING IN ALL CAPS.** Why? Because that means you are yelling at someone. There is no reason to yell in the chats or on the online forums.
- ★ **No Flooding!** Don't write the same thing over and over. Don't write the same thing over and over. Don't write the same thing over and over. Get it? Pretty annoying, huh!
- ★ **Watch what you say.** Always avoid swearing and saying gross things. You might think it's funny, but maybe the kids you're talking to don't.
- ★ **Limit emojis and symbols.** One or two emojis and exclamation points will be plenty to get your "feelings" communicated! 😊
- ★ **Always Be a Good Listener.** Take the time to "read" what people are chatting about so that you can make good comments. Also give people a chance to respond to what you have said.
- ★ **Respect the Topic.** When there is something being discussed in a chat, don't start talking over everyone about a completely different subject.
- ★ **Hang up.** When the organizer of the "chat" says it's time to hang up, hang up! When it's time to stop the chat, stop!
- ★ **Don't be a Pest.** If you are trying to "talk" with someone through a chat and they say no, please respect them and stop asking.

<p>1. Treat others as you would like to be treated</p> 	<p>2. If you wouldn't say it to someone in person, don't say it online</p> 	<p>3. People can't see your facial expressions or hear the tone of your voice online so don't over-use icons and punctuation to convey meaning</p>
<p>4. Don't make a situation worse by provoking people even more</p> 	<p>5. Don't start rumours or spread gossip about someone online</p> 	<p>6. Don't make fun of someone in an online chat</p> 

Shared from Internet Matters.