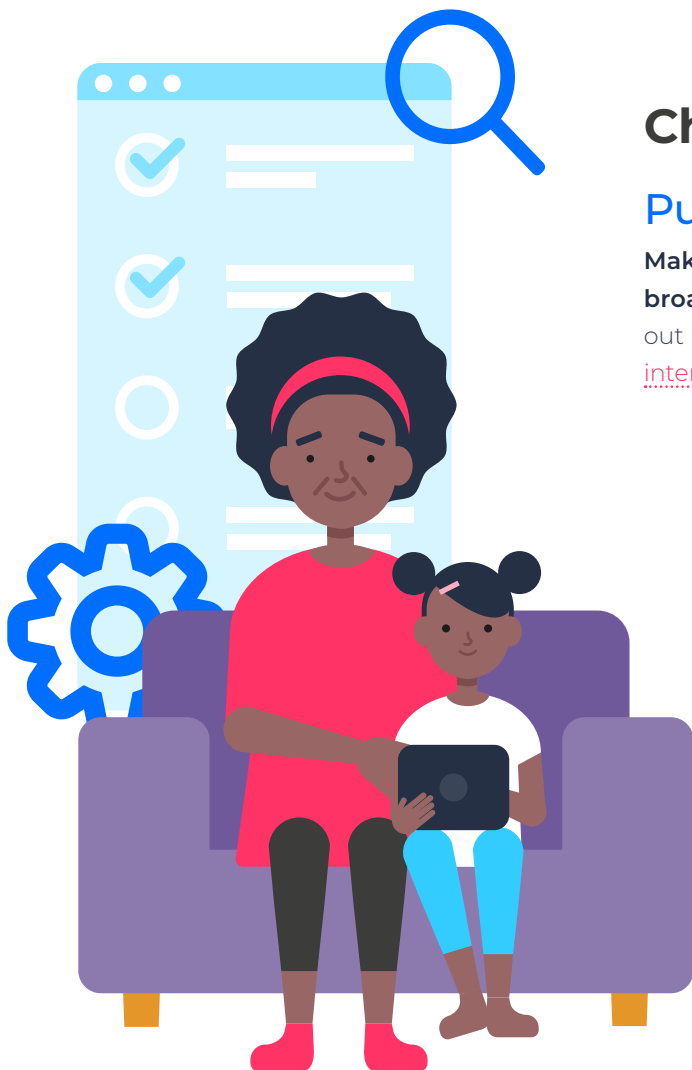
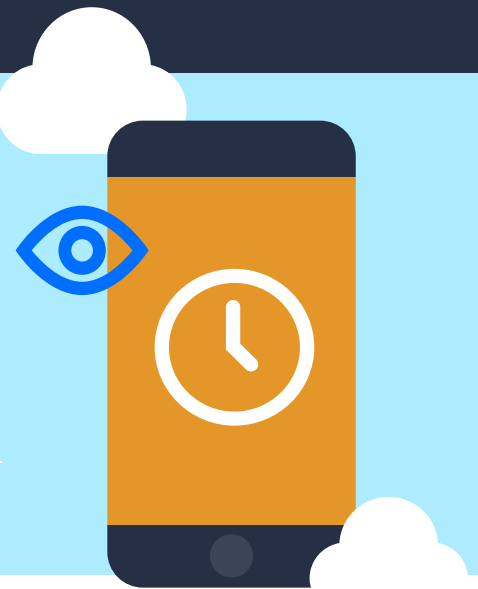


# Online safety tips for parents of pre-school children 0-5 Year Olds

internet  
matters.org

*22% of parents of 3-4-year-olds don't think their child has a good balance between screen time and other activities*

\* Source: [Ofcom Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2022](#)



## Checklist:

### Put yourself in control

Make use parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or [by visiting internetmatters.org](#).

### Search safely

Use safe search engines such as [swiggle.org.uk](#) or [kids-search.com](#). **Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines** as well as YouTube and it is possible to lock these so that they can't be inadvertently removed. You can find out more by [visiting the Google Safety Centre](#). Once you've put all of these controls in place have a browse and search for a few things to see what your children might see, if they were to do the same. Remember that voice-activated search works really well now.

## Set boundaries

**It's never too early to start setting rules about when and for how long your child can use devices** and start to introduce the subject of internet safety at the same time. Encourage children to use devices in a shared spaces like a lounge or kitchen. Make sure to keep other devices out of reach and use passwords so they can't go online without asking you first. It's also a good idea to have tech-free mealtimes and not to allow children to have devices in their bedrooms at this age.

## Explore together

**Set your homepage to a child-friendly site such as CBeebies** and give them a user account which only allows access to sites and apps you've chosen.

## Help them learn through games

Games are a great way for young children to explore the internet and learn about the world around them.

**Choose a variety of safe and educational online games and apps to play with your child** so that you'll feel more comfortable with them exploring. Make use of websites and platforms designed specifically for pre-schoolers like CBeebies, YouTube Kids, Nick Jr, and use [age ratings](#) and reviews in the app store to check app suitability.



## Know this stuff matters, but don't know where to turn?


Internet Matters is a free online resource for every parent in the UK. We'll show you the best ways to protect your children online – with information, advice and support on all the big online safety issues.

Scan below or visit [internetmatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org) for more advice





 [InternetMatters](https://www.facebook.com/InternetMatters)

 [@im\\_org](https://twitter.com/im_org)

 [@InternetMatters](https://www.youtube.com/InternetMatters)

 [Internet Matters Ltd](https://www.linkedin.com/company/InternetMattersLtd)

 [@internetmattersorg](https://www.instagram.com/internetmattersorg)

 [@InternetMatters\\_org](https://www.pinterest.com/InternetMatters_org)

**internet  
matters.org**