



## HOW TO EARN A GOOD DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

In today's connected world, it's important that children know how to be safe and responsible online.

To help you teach them the basics, Good Digital Parenting created a matching memory game and these 10 pairs cover ways in which the family can build a good digital footprint.

Each matching pair provides a conversation starter that you can have as a family. Discuss why each topic is important to the family. Need help starting the conversation? Check out the accompanying reference guide for ideas and reasons why your digital footprint matters.

After the conversation, visit [www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting](http://www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting) to learn more about everyday digital topics by reading through additional blogs, tips, and tools. Let's make becoming a good digital role model a family affair, starting with this matching game!

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Download the matching memory game and print the pages double sided if you can. If double sided, cut around the hash marks to create single cards. If printing single sided, cut around the hash marks, and glue the title cards to the content cards. Next, round up your family and have a game night with snacks and treats. Start the lifelong conversation to becoming a better digital role model and use the reference guide to turn this game into a teachable moment.





## HOW TO EARN A GOOD DIGITAL FOOTPRINT TALKING POINTS

**SEARCH YOURSELF ONLINE** – Do a quick Web search of your first and last name. Don't forget to try slightly different spellings, too. Find something about yourself that you don't like? If it's posted by a friend, ask them to take it down. Or try contacting the site administrator and request they remove any unwanted content.

**CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS** – The privacy settings on your favourite website or social network may have changed since you last checked. Take time to understand current settings so you know just what you're sharing, and update them if there are things you don't want public.

**USE STRONG PASSWORDS** – Whether email or banking, it's a good idea to have different passwords for different sites. Change the passwords across your various accounts to a combination of words, numbers and symbols that are easy for you to remember but hard for others to guess.

**UPDATE SOFTWARE** – Computer viruses and spyware can wreak havoc on your computer. Check for software updates you may have previously ignored or download one of the many safe programs available online to ensure you have the most up-to-date security for your system. You can even schedule automatic updates and let your computer do the work for you!

**THINK BEFORE YOU POST** – Your digital footprint is more than the information available about you on the Web; it's about your interactions too. Before you put anything online, ask yourself if it's something you really want others to see or know about you.

**MAINTAIN YOUR MOBILE DEVICE** – Take time to understand your mobile device settings and set a password. It's also a good idea to review any apps you've downloaded and their information-sharing policies. Delete ones that you just don't use.

**BUILD A POSITIVE REPUTATION** – Use your online presence to build a positive reputation for yourself and to inspire others! Start a blog about the good things happening in your community, make a virtual fundraising campaign for a cause you're passionate about, or text a compliment to a friend.

**DELETE OLD POSTS AND PHOTO** – You never know who will look at your social media pages. Consider deleting old photos or posts that no longer reflect your personality or that are cluttering your page.

**GO THROUGH FRIENDS & FOLLOWERS LISTS** – Every so often it's good to look through the lists of people who follow you on social media. By doing this you can remove accounts belonging to strangers and your timelines will be filled with people determined to make you smile.

**UNLINK SOCIAL MEDIA FROM ANY UNUSED ACCOUNTS** – Many online sites have the ability to sign up through your Facebook or Google account and while this may eliminate the need to remember different usernames and passwords, it's important to remember that those third parties could share your data.



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