



# Digital Literacy – Using a Computer/Device

## Communication

### What is the Internet?

The Internet is not a real place that you can physically visit, like a playground. However, it is made up of real people who can connect with one another through computer connections even when they are not in the same place.

### Online Community

Your online community will include people you may not see on a regular basis, however, are people you may connect with on the Internet.

Although you don't physically move, you may feel like you can visit places in your community!



### Emails

The email is a popular way to send messages to one another digitally. If a person has an email account, that person can send and receive emails through the Internet.



### **WARNING**

Some people use emails to deliver unwanted material to your device, which can be very annoying. However, this may also cause considerable harm to your computer and yourself!

Make sure you are careful when receiving or responding to emails!

From: bestfriend1@fastemail.com  
To: tbone@fastemail.com  
Sent: Thursday, January 1, 2015 at 3:34 pm  
Subject: playdate

Hey Tyrone,

How are you? Can you come over on Saturday?

From,  
Tanya



← header

← greeting

← message body

← closing

← signature

## Passwords

### What is a password?

A secret word or phrase that some websites require you to type in if you want to visit them.

### Why are strong passwords helpful?

Strong passwords help to protect our information from being accessed or seen by others.

#### DO

- Make passwords eight or more characters long.
- Include letters, numbers and symbols.
- Change your password at least every 6 months.
- Give your password to someone you trust.
- Create a password that you can remember.

#### DON'T

- Use dictionary words as your password.
- Use private identity information in your password.
- Use your phone number.
- Use your nickname as your password.
- Share your password with your friends.

## Key Words

**Online community** – An online community is a group of people with common interests who use the Internet (web sites, email, instant messaging, etc.) to communicate, work together and pursue their interests over time.

**Email** – A way of sending messages digitally

**Spam** – Spam emails are sent out by spammers who want to make money, obtain passwords, card numbers and bank details or cause harm to your computer by spreading viruses.

**Phishing** - Phishing is a way that criminals get sensitive information (like usernames or passwords). Very often, phishing is done by email. This mail appears to come from a bank or other service provider.