We can use the internet in lots of different ways and for lots of different things. Sometimes the internet is fun. Sometimes things can go wrong. To make sure that going online is fun – and good for you too – we asked thousands of children what they thought. This worksheet tells you what we found out.

**What about you?** Please read and answer the questions on this worksheet. You can then talk about your answers with your friends, parents or carers, and teachers.

### How do you go online?

Many children we spoke to use a mobile phone to access the internet. This is how children in **Argentina** go online:

- **87%** Smartphone
- **61%** Desktop
- **60%** Laptop
- **27%** Tablet
- **20%** Games

### What devices do you use when you go online?

Which one do you use the most and why?

### Things children do online

Many children use the internet to learn new things, to have fun or to communicate with others. This is what children in **South Africa** do the most:

- **77%** Learned something new
- **64%** Talked to family and friends
- **64%** Visited social networking sites
- **53%** Watched video clips
- **41%** Played online games

### How easy is it to check if information online is true?

Many teenagers say they can check what’s true. Lots of younger children say it is difficult. This is the number of children in the **Philippines** who said it was easy:

- **21%** Ages 9-11
- **39%** Ages 12-14
- **54%** Ages 15-17

### What are your favourite things to do online?

Please describe them here. You can write or draw.

Do you do these things alone or with others?

### What about you? How would you check what’s true online?
How easy is it to stay safe?

Many teenagers say they know which information they should and shouldn’t share online, how to change their privacy settings and remove people from their contacts. Younger children find these more difficult.

Children in Montenegro who know which information to share:

- Ages 9-11: 66%
- Ages 12-14: 89%
- Ages 15-17: 96%

The internet can sometimes be troublesome

Here are some things that children told us they don’t like about the internet:

- Lies. People pretend they are what they are not. (Boy, 14 years old, South Africa)
- Someone posting a status and starting to insult people. (Girl, 13 years old, Montenegro)
- Gossiping about other people and making ugly comments about other people. (Girl, 14 years old, Argentina)
- A fake profile – an anonymous profile with a fake name that uploads pictures and insults you. (Boy, 13 years old, Argentina)
- I was browsing some pictures for my wallpaper and stumbled upon a gruesome picture. (Girl, 10 years old, Serbia)
- Everyone started teasing and playing jokes on a boy. He ended up leaving the group. (Boy, 14 years old, Argentina)
- I once experienced a stranger asking for “my price” – meaning how much would it cost to perform a sexual activity. (Boy, 16 years old, the Philippines)
- Frequently having older strangers inviting me, seeing nude adverts. (Girl, 17 years old, South Africa)

What about you? What do you do to stay safe online?

What can be done to make the internet safer for children like you?

What do you do when you need help with something related to the internet?

Seeking help

When they need help, many children turn to their friends or to parents, siblings or other relatives.

This is from whom Bulgarian children seek help:

- Mother or Father: 70%
- Friend: 36%
- Nobody: 18%
- Brother or Sister: 12%
- Teacher: 4%

What else can you do to stay safe online?

Here are some free numbers you can ring if you need help:

- Childline: 0800 1111
- The Mix helpline: 0808 808 4994
- Safer Internet Centre (for professionals working with children): 0344 381 4772

Global Kids Online, www.globalkidsonline.net. For contact: globalkidsonline@lse.ac.uk

We work in the London School of Economics and Political Science and UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti, with the help of researchers in our partner countries and local UNICEF offices.

We made this worksheet to share the results of our research with children. We hope that parents and teachers will discuss this with children so that everyone learns more about what can help children online. All our findings are available at www.globalkidsonline.net/results

Source: www.globalkidsonline.net/synthesis