



AI Tips and Strategies

Tip 1

Our children are growing up in an online world where apps, games, and AI tools all collect data, often quietly in the background. Teaching kids about online privacy isn't just about one platform; it's about helping them understand how the digital world works.

Encourage your child to think before they share: Would I say this out loud in public? Personal information like names, photos, school details, and locations should stay private, and this includes sharing in apps, chats, DMs, and inside AI tools.

For practical tips and family-friendly guides, check out:

- [MediaSmarts: Protecting Your Privacy Online](#) – age-appropriate lessons and videos for families
- [Talking to Kids about Online Privacy Infographic](#) for families

Tip 2

Kids learn a lot from watching adults at school... it's no different at home or out in the community. Kids learn a lot from noticing how adults use screens, intentionally or not. A simple way to build healthy digital habits is to narrate your choices out loud.

For example: "I'm checking this site to make sure the information is real," or "I'm putting my phone away so I can focus on you," are great phrases to model digital habits. These small moments show children that technology should be used with intention and balance, and work for any tech (be it AI, social media or gaming).

For more research-informed ideas, Harvard's Center for Digital Thriving offers excellent family resources:

<https://digithriving.gse.harvard.edu/>

Tip 3

One of the simplest ways to get more accurate, ethical, and useful results from AI is to slow down the first prompt. Before asking for anything to support your student's work (an assignment or activity), start with a thinking prompt such as "before you generate anything, ask me 3 clarifying questions", or even "help me identify risks, limitations, or ethical concerns with this idea."

This small shift keeps you and your student firmly in the driver's seat and builds the critical habits we want all students to develop: pausing, clarifying, checking assumptions, and making thoughtful decisions before producing content.

Why it matters:

When we prompt AI to think with us rather than for us, we reduce errors, avoid bias or misinformation, and strengthen our own professional judgment... modelling the same cautious, critical optimism we expect from our learners.

Check back monthly for more tips.

