Teaching Cybersecurity Education At Home

A lot of parents don't know where to begin when it comes to teaching kids how to be safer online. Luckily, you don't need to know a lot of jargon or have a computer science degree to understand online security basics. Here are five simple steps to establish a home cybersecurity curriculum.

Use the internet to find cybersecurity resources. Reading SecurityWatch every week will help, but there are many online cybersecurity courses and e-books for parents. I recommend starting your educational journey with cyber.org. This site offers many free activities and courses for parents and educators who want to learn more about cybersecurity and teach children.

Keep your data to yourself. Don't want your kids to share the intimate details of their lives with strangers online? As an adult, you should consider holding back from oversharing online too. Scammers can use the information you or your kids share on your online social profiles or chat messages to commit identity theft. Be a good role model by protecting your personal information at every turn online and teaching kids to do the same.
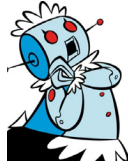
Introduce your kids to a password manager and help them create their vault. Password managers eliminate the need to remember incredibly complex strings of characters, and they keep your online accounts safe. Invest in a Family or Premium password management system, and allow your kids to maintain their logins. The child may lock themselves out of the password manager if they forget the master password, so I suggest opting for a passwordless login solution such as LastPass. By going passwordless, your child can get into their password vault using a mobile authenticator or biometric methods, such as a fingerprint or face scan.

Monitor engagement on social platforms. Kids often use the internet for gaming, social media, and streaming. You may be able to suss out a potential online scam situation or other inappropriate chatter just by observing your child's online activity. Parental control software can give you a detailed account of your child's online activity throughout the day, including links to YouTube videos they've watched. If your children are young, you may want to keep their computer or another online device in a public area of the home, so they can talk to you in person about any iffy online behavior they encounter.

Establish household best practices for online security. When you give children their first internet-connected devices, take the time to establish some house rules, and keep an open and ongoing dialogue about them. Here are five suggested starter rules:

- Do not store credit card information or other sensitive information in online accounts.
- Create and store all online login information in a password manager.
- Keep the antivirus software running in the background.
- Do not download apps that aren't from Google Play or Apple's App Store.
- Use extreme caution when clicking links from people you don't know.

Source: https://www.pcmag.com/

5 Modern Technologies 'The Jetsons' Accurately Predicted 60 Years Ago

When The Jetsons premiered in 1962, show writers William Hanna and Joseph Barbera imagined what the future might look like in 100 years. They also created George Jetson, the "dad of the future," to handle the trials and tribulations of the nuclear household of 2062, and they set his date of birth as July 31, 2022.

In celebration of this beloved cartoon father's birthday, lets take a look at the various gizmos and gadgets in the show to see how much of it might have inspired modern echnologies we use today. It turns out there's a quite a lot.

1. Video Calls

Perhaps the most obvious bit of tech from The Jetsons to make its way to the modern age is the video call. Video calls took place regularly on the show, most often for connecting family members to one another or for connecting George to his boss.

Notably, the first real video call took place long before the show was even created, in 1927, to connect then-US Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover in Washington, D.C. to then-AT&T President Walter Gifford in New York City. AT&T later announced video conferencing as a subscription service at the 1964 World's Fair, but canceled it in the '70s due to low subscription rates. Nowadays video calling is so commonplace that most of the popular services we use on a regular basis are offered for free.

2. Personal Assistants

The cultural impact of Rosie the robot cannot be overstated when talking about tech from The Jetsons. While having a personal robot assistant like Rosie still remains largely a dream, voice assistants are very much a reality that many of us use on a daily basis. And let's not forget about robot vacuums and mops, two welcome household 'bots that do some of the dirty work for us. There's also the Astro, Amazon's personal robot that can act as a mobile voice assistant and security guard (and shares a name with the Jetsons' dog, and Proteus, the company's fully autonomous robot designed to work at Amazon's fulfillment and sort centers (at least initially). So while we may not have our own Rosie just yet, we're getting pretty close.

3. Smart Watches

George Jetson was constantly getting work calls from his boss on his wristwatch. While that watch was almost exclusively used for video calls in the show, modern smartwatches are far more useful, offering you navigation directions or the ability to call a cab, measuring your activity and heart rate, and, of course, letting you make and answer phone calls. Some models offer video-calling capabilities as well, but these day we have plenty of more convenient screens for that.

4. Food Printing

Preparing dinner on The Jetsons was as simple as choosing what you wanted to eat and setting it into the food replicator, which automatically produced tasty-looking results (for a cartoon, that is). In 2006, the Cornell University student group Fab@Home created the first 3D printer capable of printing food, with a series of syringes filled with substances like chocolate and cookie dough. Modern 3D food printers use cartridges of powdered food components (such as proteins and simple carbohydrates) to create different foods within the printer itself.

While 3D food printers haven't quite reached a level of ubiquity where most of us have one on the kitchen shelf, we've reviewed gadgets at PCMag such as the Zimplistic Rotimatic, which turns out perfect roti at the push of a button. While it's not quite a food replicator, we can tell you that the future of flatbread is indeed delicious.

5. Space Tourism

Though The Jetsons took place in the fictional, cloud-based Orbit City, space travel on the show was so commonplace that people would take vacations to the moon.

While it'll likely be some time before you can book an interstellar family getaway, the first space tourist is set to visit the International Space Station in 2023. In addition, companies like Blue Origin are regularly launching missions to send their own teams of astronauts into space with the goal of making space travel possible for the common individual.

Looking back, it's pretty impressive just how far technology has advanced since The Jetsons was created. We can't know for sure what the next 60 years has in store for us and what technology will meet us there, but we can at least hope that much of it is as fun as what Hanna-Barbera dreamed up in 1962.

Source: https://www.pcmag.com/

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August 1, 1981 - MTV was launched on cable TV

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August 9,1991 - First Email Sent From Space

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FUN FACT!

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