AT&T *Mobile Safety*

Safety School: Facilitator Guide

Updated 10.22.12

This document is intended for use by bloggers contracted by AT&T to host safety schools for The Mobile Family program. This guide should help you design discussions and give you ideas about conversations related to each wireless safety topic. You do not need to read this document verbatim during your sessions. Please feel free to customize the discussion for each gathering. Unauthorized redistribution is prohibited.

Table of Contents

SAFETY SCHOOL TOPICS

Choose a topic for your safety school meetings from the list below. Take into consideration your audience's demographic, technology usage and kids' ages when selecting a session. Pick the session that applies to the majority of participants.

TOPIC	Age 8-11	Age 12-14	Age 15-17
First Phone	X		
Wireless Safety 101	X	X	
Smartphones		X	X
Apps	X	X	
Data & Privacy	X	X	X
Sexting & Bullying		X	X
Driver Safety			X

TOPIC OVERVIEWS

Below is an overview of the learning objectives and activities for each topic in our family safety curriculum. The information below should be used to help determine which topic is appropriate for your next safety school meeting.

TOPIC	PARENTS WILL LEARN	ACTIVITES	HANDOUTS
1. First Phone	Tips to decide if and when kids should get their first phone AT&T products that help manage first phone usage and expenses	Parent Q&A	My First Phone Raising Responsible Digital Citizens
2. Wireless Safety 101	Facts about kids and wireless usage Safety ground rules, tips and phone etiquette	Role playing	Mobile Phones and Your Kids Rules for Mobile Phones at School
3. Smartphones	Tips to decide if and when kids should get a smartphone Smartphone transition guidelines	Are you smarter than a smartphone quiz	Secondhand Smartphones
4. Apps	Downloading tips by age App facts	App-aptitude	Navigating Apps App Anxiety
5. Data & Privacy	Wireless data and privacy concerns	Private or Public?	The Effects of Online Actions
6. Sexting & Bullying	Tips to identify, prevent and stop sexting and bullying	Is it a sext?	Dealing with Digital Abuse The Truth About Sexting
7. Driver Safety	Tips to help teen drivers stay safe	Role playing	On the Road Off the Phone

1. TOPIC ONE FIRST PHONE (AGES 8-11)

Introduction (2 min)

Thank you for participating in this session. I know you have very busy lives, but I truly believe it is important for us to find time to talk about what's taking so much of our kids attention – wireless phones.

AT&T Background (2 min)

Today, I am here as a representative of AT&T. They asked bloggers across the country to spend time with our friends, colleagues and neighbors to start conversations about wireless safety – emerging hot topics, talking with kids, managing new technology and more.

We're in uncharted territory – there is so much information about traditional safety topics like stranger danger, saying no to drugs, but now we need to add new safety topics into the mix like texting while driving, data and privacy, bullying and more. Kids have access to so much information; as parents, we just need to remember that even though there are many "new" tools, the "old" rules of parenting still apply.

I'd like to share some tips and solutions from AT&T and hopefully we can learn from each other as well. So, let's get started.

Activity Parent Q&A (12 min)

Today we are here to talk about giving wireless phones to our children for the first time. I want to hear about what's happening in your homes:

- What age did you child start asking about getting their own phone?
- Does your child have a mobile phone?
- Would you buy your child a new phone or give them a hand me down?
- What are your children saying to convince you to get their own phone?

AT&T Research: Did You Know (7 Min)

AT&T recently conducted a national study with parents and kids. Did you know:

- The average age a child is given his or her first phone is 12.1
- The average age for a child's first smartphone is 13.8
- For kids 8-11 who have a cell phone, the average age they received their first phone was 9.5
- Does this surprise you?

Tips from AT&T (10 min)

I want to hand out this sheet from AT&T with tips as you think about that first phone. Let's go through it together:

- **Look at past behavior.** Have your children accepted and managed responsibility with other privileges, like a pet or an expensive toy?
- **Consider why your children "need" a mobile phone**. Do they need to be in touch for safety reasons or for social ones?
- **Introduce a new kind of allowance**. Are your children able to stay within a budget when it comes to a weekly allowance or time spent in front of the television?

- **Teach modern mobile etiquette**. Children should understand the reasons why it's not appropriate to text during class, disturb others with their conversations, or use text, photo and video functions to embarrass or harass others.
- **Consider the costs**. Mobile phones and their accompanying plans can vary dramatically in cost. Make sure the added expense of both the phone itself and the service plan is something your family is comfortable adding to the budget.

Is it smart to give my child a smartphone?

- Cell phones aren't just for talking anymore. More likely, kids are texting, surfing the web, updating Facebook pages, playing games, downloading apps, playing with ring tones, taking pictures, recording video, and more.
- When you give your children smartphones, you're giving them powerful communications and media production tools. They can create text, images, and videos that can be widely distributed and uploaded to Web sites instantly.
- If you think your kids' technological savvy is greater than their ability to use it wisely, pay attention to the gap. We're still the parents. And it's our job to say, "No, not yet."

Let's learn from one another. Tell me:

- What are you telling your kids about getting their first phone?
- What are you waiting for?
- What worries you most about giving your kids a new phone?
- Would you give your child a smartphone as their first phone?

Tools from AT&T (10 min)

Here are some products from AT&T that can help you set ground rules and safety measures for wireless first timers in your family.

- AT&T Smart Limits for Wireless℠
- Wireless Content Filter
- Wireless Purchase Blocker
- AT&T FamilyMap
- AT&T Mobile Insurance
- AT&T Mobile Protection Pack

2. TOPIC TWO: WIRELESS SAFETY 101 (AGES 8-11)

Introduction (2 min)

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I'd like to share some tips and solutions from AT&T and hopefully we can learn from each other as well. So, let's get started.

Activity: Role Playing (12 min)

Today we are here to talk about basic wireless safety. It's Wireless Usage 101 - all of the ground rules and precautions we can establish to help us find a little peace of mind. Let's do some role playing. I will assign you a new wireless safety rule you're planning to implement at home. Get into groups of two. One parent can play the role of the child while the other parent tries to explain why this new rule is being enforced.

- No phones at the dinner table
- No phones after 8:00PM
- No internet access
- Daily call and text log review
- Phones in parents room after 10:00PM
- $10 limit each month on apps and downloads

Could you enforce these rules in your home? Why or why not?

Tips from AT&T (10 min)

I want to hand out this tip sheet from AT&T with tips to think about as you establish phone etiquette and safety rules. Let's go through it together:

1. **Model good behavior.** Turn off your mobile phones and electronic devices during dinner or while participating in family activities. Children will feel more compelled to follow rules if everyone in the family abides by them.
2. **Pay attention.** Know where your kids go online and what they're doing there, especially while using mobile phones.
3. **Impart our values.** Cheating, lying and being cruel online or on the phone are not acceptable. The concepts of right and wrong should extend to a child's online and mobile life.

4. **Establish limits.** Set clear time or texting limits and time-of-day restrictions so children know when it's appropriate to use mobile phones or technology.
5. **Encourage balance.** Support their interest in offline activities and verbal communication that doesn't require a gadget or mobile device.
6. **Make kids accountable.** Using digital media is a privilege. Consider asking your child to complete more essential tasks, like chores or family time, before letting him get on the internet or text with friends.
7. **Explain what's at stake.** Remind young people that what they do today can be used against them tomorrow, especially when their actions are online.
8. **Do your homework.** Research the websites your kids visit, the songs they download, etc. Stay tuned into how and why they're using technology so they don't have free reign.

Let's learn from one another. Tell me:
- **What do you think about these rules?**
- **Could you reinforce any of these concepts in your home?**
- **What if anything, are you going to change once you get home?**

Tools from AT&T (10 min)
We know it's not always easy, but sometimes you can use technology to keep an eye on technology. Here are some tools from AT&T that could help you enforce wireless ground rules:
- AT&T Smart Limits for Wireless℠
- Wireless Content Filter
- Wireless Purchase Blocker
- AT&T FamilyMap

2. TOPIC TWO: WIRELESS SAFETY 101 (AGES 12-14)

Introduction (2 min)

Thank you for participating in this session. I know you have very busy lives, but I truly believe it is important for us to find time to talk about what's taking so much of our kids attention – wireless phones.

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I'd like to share some tips and solutions from AT&T and hopefully we can learn from each other as well. So, let's get started.

Activity: Role Playing (12 min)

Today we are here to talk about basic wireless safety. It's Wireless Usage 101 - all of the ground rules and precautions we can establish to help us find a little peace of mind. Do your kids think they know how to use a mobile phone better than you? Is it true? How can you get a handle on wireless usage when your kids are the pros? We'll give you some tips from AT&T that you can experiment with at home. To get started, let's do a little role playing. I want to see how you guys negotiate wireless rules with your kids. Get into groups of two. One parent can play the role of the child while the other parent tries to explain why a new rule is being implemented.

- Block phone calls of friends who have been texting after 11:00PM
- No phones at the dinner table
- Text parents when they arrive at locations – school, friend's house, etc.
- Install GPS locator app (like AT&T FamilyMap)
- Limit data/messaging usage to $20 per month

Could you enforce these rules in your home? Why or why not?

Tips from AT&T (10 min)

I want to hand out this tip sheet from AT&T. Let's go through it together. Here are some tips as you think about negotiating wireless usage and ground rules:

1. **Model good behavior.** Turn off your mobile phones and electronic devices during dinner or while participating in family activities. Children will feel more compelled to follow rules if everyone in the family abides by them.
2. **Pay attention.** Know where your kids go online and what they're doing there.
3. **Impart our values.** Cheating, lying and being cruel online or on the phone are not acceptable. The concepts of right and wrong should extend to a child's online and mobile life.

4. **Establish limits.** Set clear time or texting limits and time-of-day restrictions so children know when it's appropriate to use mobile phones or technology.
5. **Encourage balance.** Support their interest in offline activities that don't require a gadget or mobile device.
6. **Make kids accountable.** Using digital media is a privilege. Consider asking your child to complete more essential tasks, like chores, homework or family time, before letting him get on the internet or text with friends.
7. **Explain what's at stake.** Remind kids that what they do today can be used against them tomorrow, especially when their actions are online.
8. **Do your homework.** Research the websites your kids visit, the songs they download, etc. Stay tuned into how and why they're using technology so they don't have free reign. Consider setting up social media profiles to see how your children interact online and to help demonstrate responsible use.

Let's learn from one another. Tell me:
- **What do you think about these rules?**
- **Could you reinforce any of these concepts in your home?**
- **What if anything, are you going to change once you get home?**

Tools from AT&T (10 min)

We know it's not always easy, but sometimes you can use technology to keep an eye on technology. Here are some tools from AT&T that could help you enforce wireless ground rules:
- AT&T Smart Limits for Wireless℠
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- Wireless Purchase Blocker
- AT&T FamilyMap

3. TOPIC THREE: SMARTPHONES (AGES 8-11) and (AGES 12-14)

Introduction (2 min)

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I'd like to share some tips and solutions from AT&T and hopefully we can learn from each other as well. So, let's get started.

Today we are here to talk about smartphones. They are all the rage and everyone wants one, but is it really smart to give your kid a smartphone?

Activity: Are You Smarter Than a Smartphone? (12 min)

Let's start by testing your knowledge of smartphones. I'm going to ask you some questions. Let's see how many you can answer correctly.
- What is the average age kids are getting smartphones? [Answer 13.8]
- What percentage of kids between the ages of 8-17 have a smartphone? [Answer 34%]
- What is the average cost of a smartphone device? ($135 Source: NPD 2011)
- What percent of kids with smartphones say they are addicted to them? (59%)

An Important Note about Smartphones (4 min)
- The average cost of a smartphone is based on a subsidized price and the actual cost of the device is much higher.
- In return for the subsidized price, a customer has to sign a service agreement with the carrier. At AT&T it would generally be a two year service agreement.
- If the phone is lost or stolen within the two year service agreement period and the customer doesn't have mobile insurance and want to get a replacement smartphone, it will cost much more. In the case of an iPhone or high end Android device, the replacement cost could be $500 or higher.
- This is why mobile insurance has become very popular among customers who are buying smartphones.
- Many customers do not understand that the initial cost of a phone is subsidized and replacement cost will be much higher unless the customer's service agreement period has past.

Tips from AT&T (10 min)

I want to hand out this sheet from AT&T with tips as you think about giving your kids smartphones. Let's go through it together:

- **Know what the device can do**. If a device has powerful features, know that your teen will discover and want to use them. Do your research so you can talk to your kids and set limits on these capabilities.
- **Turn off or don't pay for features you don't want children to use**. Use parental controls to lock features that you don't want your child or teen to access. Things like location services, downloading ability and data plans are all things young people may not need. Then, consider unlocking features as kids prove their ability to responsibly manage them.
- **Discuss responsible ownership**. Talk about your expectations for responsible ownership, like not taking or posting embarrassing photos on social media sites, learning the importance of privacy settings or figuring out when websites or ads are malicious.
- **It's okay to say no**. If the device has more features than your child can handle, it may be worth your while to keep it and consider a less daunting piece of equipment.

Let's learn from one another. Tell me:

- **At what age did your kids start asking for a smartphone?**
- **How much are you willing to spend on the device? On a monthly plan?**
- **What is the #1 thing your kids will do with a smartphone?**
- **How will you protect them from too much information?**

Tools from AT&T (10 min)

We know it's not always easy. Smartphones mean freedom and access to so much more information. Here are some products from AT&T that can help you set sensible boundaries and provide peace of mind as you consider a smartphone for your kids:

- AT&T Mobile Insurance
- AT&T Mobile Protection Pack
- AT&T Smart Limits for Wireless℠
- Wireless Content Filter
- Wireless Purchase Blocker

4. TOPIC FOUR: APPS (AGES 8-11)

Introduction (2 min)

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I'd like to share some tips and solutions from AT&T and hopefully we can learn from each other as well. So, let's get started.

Today we are here to talk about apps. Yes, Angry Birds is great to keep our kids occupied while we run a few errands; but how much do our kids really know about apps, and what have they learned from watching us?

Activity: App-Apitude (12 min)

Let's start by testing your knowledge of apps. I'm going to ask you some questions. Let's see how many of you can answer correctly.

- How much does the average app cost? (average iPhone app costs $3.48 – Network World)
- What percentage of children ages 5-8 have used apps to play games, watch videos, read, etc (52% - Common Sense Media)
- Do app makers target children? (Yes, 72% of the top-selling apps targeted pre-school to elementary school children - Sesame Workshop)
- What is the most popular age category for app? (Apps for toddlers/preschoolers are the most popular age category with 58% - Sesame Workshop)

Tips from AT&T (15 min)

I want to hand out this sheet from AT&T with tips to think about as you help your kids manage app downloads. Let's go through it together:

- **Establish rules around downloading**. Make the rules and establish consequence before kids go app shopping.
- **Limit screen time**. Even if the games your kid plays on your smartphone are educational, count their smartphone time in their total screen allowance for the day.
- **Play along**. Many apps are multiplayer, so carve out time to play with your child.
- **Don't go by the developer's age rating**. The age rating listed in the app description is from the developer and can be way off.

- **Look for age-appropriate apps with quality content**. Find apps that are truly worth your child's time and your money.
- **Establish a spending limit**. Remind kids that apps add up.
- **Watch out for ad bombardment**. Many "free" apps make their revenue by selling ads. Teach your kid how to tell what ads look like.

App Tips for Elementary-Age Kids
- **Shop for apps alone or with your kid**. Some of the content in app stores aren't for kids. Kids can very easily run across screenshots, user comments and apps that aren't age-appropriate.
- **Look for educational apps.**
- **Protect your password, and use content filters**. A password is required to download an app. Many app retailers offer content filters that restrict the kind of content you can download.
- **Double check the app name**. Many apps have similar names.
- **Check an app's multiplayer options**. Even apps for little kids offer the ability to play against strangers. Check to see if you can disable the feature before downloading the app.

We know it's not always easy, and many app stores make it just as simple to purchase kid-friendly apps as it is to purchase adults-only ones. Here are some tips from AT&T that may help you set sensible boundaries for app downloads:
- **Don't judge an app by its title**. Lots of apps sound the same but can be entirely different. Double and triple-check what an app includes before downloading.
- **Check the connections**. Be aware of apps with multiplayer options allow kids to play with people they don't know. Also, just because kids are playing games on your phone doesn't mean their multiplayer options are limited. Turn off multiplayer options if you're not comfortable with them.
- **Be alert for ads.** App developers look for all kinds of ways to profit from their products. Keep an eye on the game and teach your kid to be ad-savvy.
- **Count the costs**. Apps can range widely in price. Manage downloads by setting limits on how much kids can spend or use parental controls to block access to download sites.
- **Take time to window shop**. Adult apps are often offered side-by-side with kid apps, and descriptions, screenshots and user comments that may be not appropriate for every age are displayed. Limit exposure to age-inappropriate material by browsing the apps yourself, reading app reviews and taking note of apps your child might like.
- **Evaluate the cost of "free."** Many apps are offered for free because they are full of ads that may not be age-appropriate. The full, paid version of these apps may not have the ads. Consider an investment in the full version of apps to avoid exposing kids to ads.
- **Talk to kids about using apps and smartphones responsibly.** When it comes to app descriptions, read the fine print first and don't judge and app by its age rating, as they are often recommended by the creator of the app.

Tools from AT&T (2 min)
If you need to manage app downloads and premium purchases, try:
- AT&T Smart Limits for Wireless℠
- Wireless Purchase Blocker

4. TOPIC FOUR: APPS (AGES 12-14)

Introduction (2 min)

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I'd like to share some tips and solutions from AT&T and hopefully we can learn from each other as well. So, let's get started.

Today we are here to talk about apps. Is your kid's phone just another handheld video game player? Is your child racking up monthly app charges? Are you concerned about inappropriate apps?

Activity: App-Aptitude (8 min)

Let's start by testing your knowledge of apps. I'm going to ask you some questions. Let's see how many you can answer correctly.
- How many apps have the average child downloaded (10 – NPD)
- For kids, what percent of downloaded apps are free vs. premium cost (82% - NPD)
- How much does the average app cost? (average iPhone app costs $3.48 – Network World)

Tips from AT&T (15 min)

I want to hand out this sheet from AT&T tips as you help your kids to manage app downloads. Let's go through it together:
- **Establish rules around downloading**. Make the rules and establish consequence before kids go app shopping.
- **Limit screen time**. Even if the games your kid plays on your smartphone are educational, count their smartphone time in their total screen allowance for the day.
- **Play along**. Many apps are multiplayer, so carve out time to play with your child.
- **Don't go by the developer's age rating**. The age rating listed in the app description is from the developer and can be way off.
- **Look for age-appropriate apps with quality content**. Find apps that are truly worth your child's time and your money.
- **Establish a spending limit**. Remind kids that apps add up.
- **Watch out for ad bombardment**. Many "free" apps make their revenue by selling ads. Show your kid how to tell what ads look like.

App Tips for Older Kids

- **Talk about social networking apps that have location-sharing**. Increasingly, many apps make it easy for teens to post their location, which opens them up to safety and privacy issues, including the possibility of face-to-face meet-ups with strangers.

We know it's not always easy. Many app stores make it just as simple to purchase kid-friendly apps as it is to purchase adults-only ones. Here are some tips from AT&T that can help you set sensible boundaries for app downloads:

- **Don't judge an app by its title**. Lots of apps sound the same but can be entirely different. Double and triple-check what an app includes before downloading.
- **Check the connections**. Be aware of apps with multiplayer options allow kids to play with people they don't know. Also, just because kids are playing games on your phone doesn't mean their multiplayer options are limited. Turn off multiplayer options if you're not comfortable with them.
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- **Count the costs**. Apps can range widely price. Manage downloads by setting limits on how much kids can spend or use parental controls to block access to download sites.
- **Take time to window shop**. Adult apps like are often offered side-by-side with kid apps, and descriptions, screenshots and user comments that may be not appropriate for every age are displayed. Limit exposure to age-inappropriate material by browsing the apps yourself, reading app reviews and taking note of apps your kids might like.
- **Evaluate the cost of "free."** Many apps are offered for free because they are full of ads that may not be age-appropriate. The full, paid version of these apps may not have the ads. Consider an investment in the full version of apps to avoid exposing kids to ads.
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Tools from AT&T (2 min)

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5. TOPIC FIVE: DATA AND PRIVACY (AGES 8-11) AND (AGES 12-14)

Introduction (2 min)

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Activity: Public or Private (12 min)

Let's talk about information. Tell me if this is something you would tell your kids to keep *PUBLIC* or *PRIVATE* in the digital world:

- Birthday
- Address
- School
- Phone number
- E-mail address
- Photos of their friends
- Video from a party
- Parents' names
- Homework assignment

Mobile phones and smartphones have made sharing and collaboration effortless. Have you talked to your kids about the impact of sharing personal or private materials?

Tips from AT&T (12 min)

I want to hand out this sheet from AT&T with tips as you help your kids become good citizens in the mobile world . Let's go through it together:

- Each time kids fill out a profile, comment on something published, post a video or text a picture of themselves to friends, they potentially reveal themselves to the world.

- Our culture of sharing and the ease of online disclosure pose real risks for young people. A teen's private thoughts can be shared with countless strangers, secrets can become headlines and false information can spread fast and furiously.
- Actions conducted online create digital footprints that migrate and endure. Something that happens in the spur of the moment — a funny picture, a certain post — can resurface years later. And if kids aren't careful, their reputations can be damaged.
- Texts and posts can cause unintended hurt or damage to others.
- Something originally sent to a friend can then be sent to a friend's friend, who can send it to their friends' friends, and so on.

Let's learn from one another. Tell me:

- Have you found your kid texting, sharing or posting something that should be private?
- How did it make you feel? How did you react?
- How can we talk to our kids about this issue? What examples are you using to remind children to be careful when they share from their mobile phone?

6. TOPIC SIX SEXTING AND BULLYING (AGES 12-14) AND (AGES 15-17)

Introduction (2 min)

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I'd like to share some tips and solutions from AT&T and hopefully we can learn from each other as well. So, let's get started.

Today we are here to talk about two important issues in the headlines – sexting and bullying.

Activity: (12 min)

Sexting and bullying can difficult topics for many reasons, because there are a lot of sensitivities and the terms are still being defined. We all have different ideas of what makes us uncomfortable and what would be considered abusive. Let's see if as a group we can come up with some share ideas and solutions. Here are some examples of abusive activities, what other examples can you share?

- Writing things online that are mean
- Someone forwarding an IM or message that was intended to stay private

AT&T Research: Did You Know (7 Min)

AT&T recently conducted a national study with parents and kids. Did you know:

- Over 1 in 5 children ages 8-17 have received a mean or bullying text message from another kid on their mobile phone.
- 46% of kids ages 8-17 have a friend who has received a message or picture that their parents would not have liked because it was too sexual.
- Over 1 in 5 kids ages 8-17 have talked or texted with someone on the phone that their parents would prefer for them not to talk to.

Tips from AT&T (10 min)

I want to hand out this tip sheet from AT&T. Let's go through it together. Here are some tips as you help your kids become good citizens in the mobile world:

Here are some tips from AT&T if you think your child is being digitally abused:
- **Start a discussion.** Your child may not tell you if abuse is happening directly to him or her. But, you can bring it up when you talk about online safety and responsible behavior.
- **Let them know you're always there for them.** Remind children often that you're always available to talk and that school counselors, teachers or even a friend's parent are also people to whom they can turn.
- **Blocking Tools.** Use AT&T Smart Limits for Wireless℠ to block harassing numbers and text messages.

If you suspect your child may be digitally abusing someone:
- **Check up on them.** Check your child's Facebook page and mobile phone to see what kind of messages they're sending and whether anyone is telling them to back off**.** Check in with other parents who may know something you don't.
- **Help your child find a counselor** or an organization that's equipped to help.
- **Check your child's texts and status updates.** Be aware of who your children talk to, what they're saying and how they're saying it. If your children won't share their messages, look at your bill to see the quantity of texts.
- **Have a zero-tolerance policy.** No sexting, no hate speech, no stalking. Make sure you explain the rules of responsible ownership of their devices.
- **Teach kids to be up-standers, not bystanders.** If kids see their friends being digitally abused, they should report it to a teacher, a counselor or another responsible, trustworthy adult.
- **Talk about what's private.** Kids often differ from their parents on what's "private" and what's okay to share. Explain to them the consequences of posting or sending intimate content. Texts, emails andphotos can be copied, forwarded and sent to thousands of others in an instant.

Let's learn from one another. Tell me:
- Do your kids know what cyber-bullying and sexting are?
- Have you talked to your kids about sexting or bullying?
- What did you tell them?
- Has your child received or sent a bullying text message or other abusive content? How did you address it?

Tools from AT&T (4 min)
If you need to block incoming or outgoing phone call or text messages, try:
- AT&T Smart Limits for Wireless℠

7. TOPIC SEVEN: DRIVER SAFETY (AGES 15-17)

Introduction (2 min)

Thank you for participating in this session. I know you have very busy lives, but I truly believe it is important for us to find time to talk about what's taking so much of our kids attention – wireless phones.

AT&T Background (2 min)

I am here as a representative of AT&T. They have asked bloggers across the country to spend time with our friends, colleagues and neighbors to start conversations about wireless safety – emerging hot topics, talking with kids, managing new technology and more.

We're in uncharted territory – there is so much information about traditional safety topics like stranger danger, saying no to drugs, but now we need to add new safety topics into the mix like texting while driving, data and privacy, bullying and more. Kids have access to so much information; as parents, we just need to remember that even though there are many new tools, the "old" rules of parenting still apply.

I'd like to share some tips and solutions from AT&T and hopefully we can learn from each other as well. So, let's get started.

Activity: Role Playing (12 min)

Today we are here to talk about teen driver safety. A license to drive is also a license to a whole new world of freedom and responsibilities. How are you dealing with these new freedoms in your home? Get into groups of two. One parent can play the role of the teen while the other parent tries to explain new driver safety rules.

- Establish no texting or phone use while driving.
- Download AT&T DriveMode™ app that , when enabled, auto-replies to incoming texts, letting friends know you're behind the wheel and will reply when it's safe.
- Set passenger restriction (only one other person in the car).
- Set no passenger texting or phone use rule to prevent distractions.
- Phone must be turned off and stowed away when you are driving.

AT&T Research: Did You Know (7 Min)

AT&T recently conducted a national study with parents and kids. Did you know:

- 89% of parents say they are concerned about their kids being in a vehicle with someone who is texting while driving
- 53% of kids 8-17 have been in a car with someone who was texting while driving
- 64% of kids 15-17 have been in a car with people who are texting while driving

Tips from AT&T (10 min)

I want to hand out this sheet from AT&T with tips as you help your kids become safe drivers in the mobile world. Let's go through it together:

Establish no texting while driving rules:
- Never text and drive. No text message is worth being distracted while you're on the road.
- Take control. It's your phone, so you decide if and when to send and read texts.
- Consider turning your phone off, setting it to silent or even storing it in the glove box before hitting the road.
- Be caring. Never send a text message to a friend who is driving to meet you, or to anyone you know is likely behind the wheel. Friends don't let friends text and drive.

Know your kids are safe, on-the-road and on-the-go
- Download AT&T FamilyMap to locate your child's phone from a wireless phone or PC.
- Purchase Roadside Assistance to protect your child, wherever they go. This service follows your phone, covering drivers or passengers, family members or friends, your car or theirs, as long as the enrolled phone is present.
- Download the FREE AT&T DriveMode™ app that, when enabled, auto-replies to incoming texts, letting friends know you're behind the wheel and will reply when it's safe (currently available on Blackberry smartphones and Android devices.
- Purchase AT&T Roadside Assistance to protect your child, wherever they may go. This service follows your phone, covering drivers or passengers, family members or friends, your car or theirs, as long as the enrolled phone is present.
- Download AT&T DriveMode no texting while driving app that, when enabled, auto-replies to incoming texts, letting friends know you're behind the wheel and will reply when it's safe

Tools from AT&T (10 min)
- AT&T DriveMode™
- AT&T FamilyMap
- AT&T Roadside Assistance