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# EDITORIAL: SD73 wise to give kids Internet education

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When it comes to computer use and social media, our kids can teach us things that will make our heads spin.

And, expert use of the Internet is not the domain of the teenaged crowd, as anyone with a pre-teen and a keyboard can attest.

However, while it seems children are becoming Internet savvy at younger and younger ages, there still remains in those heads fragile and impressionable brains that require as much protection as though they were riding a bike.

Which is why decision by the Kamloops-Thompson school district to introduce Passport to the Internet is such a good idea.

Developed by the Media Awareness Network, Passport to the Internet is a program for use on school computers.

It allows elementary-aged children to plunge into an Internet-scenario — without actually being on the Internet — where they can engage in social networking, online advertising, online searching and instant messaging.

The idea is to show the kids dangers they may encounter without even realizing the danger inherent.

Those pop-up ads promising a free iPod? Not a great idea to click on them? That instant message from someone you don't know, asking for your name? Best to ignore it.

Kids will become fluent in the Internet by the time they get their feet wet in elementary school.

It's up to parents to ensure they are prepared to jump into the wired world.

SD73 is helping with Passport to the Internet — kudos to the district for being so proactive.

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