



Looking for activities
to do with your kids
over half term?

Create some Fabulous Family Memories with our Family Cookery Challenge...

Time to Cook are running their third Family Challenge. We've had such good feedback from the first two we thought that it was about time to run another!

The challenge is completely free and is designed to keep your kids busy and to help them to make memories in the kitchen.

**It starts on Monday
25th October**



Sign up here

Once you've signed up, let us know on the comments on our [Facebook page here...](#)
we cannot wait to get started!!

Starting on Monday 25th October, the tasks will be announced over three days.

You'll have until Friday 29th October to complete all 3 tasks and the winners will be announced on Saturday 30th October during a celebratory live event!

First Prize!
3 month subscription
to the Time to Cook
Busy Box*

with loads of other amazing
prizes to announce too!

INFANTS | JUNIORS | ADVANCED

Find out more about our clubs >

*Usual price for the first three months is £50.00

Welcome to the October 2021 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

What is a Loot Box?

Loot boxes are a key feature of many online games. They have come under fire for using predatory techniques to push players to spend money while gaming.

In 2019 Parent Zone's report [Rip-off Games](#) identified: 93% of 10-16-year-olds play online games regularly. 76% of them say games try to get them to spend money all the time

What you can do!

- Show an interest in the games being played
- Get involved and become aware on the amount your child is spending
- Check that **your card** details aren't saved on any gaming system
- Beware of having payment methods (prepaid cards, debit/credit card) linked to their account

Check Parent Zone for more information and advice [here](#)
Review the UK Safer Internet Centre's article '[11 things you should know about loot boxes](#)'

Loot boxes are common in games such as:

Fortnite
Apex Legends
Star Wars Battlefront II
FIFA Sports games



Keeping up to date with Media Sites, Apps and Games

Would you like to:

- Keep up to date with the latest sites, apps and games?
- Find out how to keep your child safe when playing online games?

Visit **NSPCC's NetAware** site to find out more about sites and apps including:

- TikTok
- Instagram
- Whatsapp

View their easy to watch video [here](#)

The Children's Code: What you need to know

Introduced by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) as a part of the 2018 Data Protection Act, the Children's code is another name for the **Age-appropriate design code**. The code:

- contains 15 'standards' which all online services – including apps, games, connected toys and devices, and news services – **must follow in order to protect children's data online**
- applies to any online service that is likely to be accessed by someone under the age of 18

From September 2021, all companies must conform with the code.

Watch a short video about the Children's code to find out more [here](#)

Digital Resilience Toolkit for Parents

Looking for advice and help on how to help children become more resilient online?

Working with their 'Online expert ambassador' Dr Linda Papadopoulos, Internet Matters has created a number of age-specific resources to help children to become more resilient and cope with whatever the online world throws at them.

Toolkits including easy to watch videos:

- [Supporting 6 – 10 year olds](#)
- [Supporting 11 - 13 year olds](#)
- [Support 14+ year olds](#)
- [Online Safety Age Guides](#)
- [Interactive Guides](#)

Find out more [here](#)

Do you want to become a good digital parent?

The NSPCC's article '[Being a good digital role model to your child](#)' ask you to consider the following:

- Do you keep passwords safe and not share them with others?
- Do you schedule your notifications to turn off for certain times of the day?
- Do you talk about things you read online with your children?
- Do you think about what you are sharing online?

Find out the answers to the above questions and much more From the NSPCC's site [here](#)

Test your child's online safety knowledge with the NSPCC's age related quiz:

- [Under 13's](#)
- [Over 13's](#)

Online safety quiz
13+ question sheet

O2 NSPCC
Net Aware

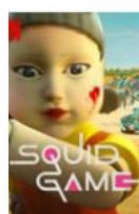


Have you heard of Squid Games?

Recommended Age 15 PEGI Rating

Commonsense Media's review:

Parents need to know that the level of violence is very intense in Squid Game. Characters are systematically tortured and killed for the sadistic pleasure of a game master. Women are grabbed by the hair and beaten. Find out more and read parent



reviews at: Commonsense Media [here](#)
Review Wayne Denner's blog and video on Squid Games [here](#)

Need Help?

Remember **FREE** advice is just a phone call away from the O2 and NSPCC helpline 0808 800 5002

SCOMIS
Your ICT Partner