

HECTOR'S WORLD™

Parent Conversation Guide

Episode 1: Hector's World



netsafe

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Theme

Online safety

Purpose

Introduce tamariki to Hector and his friends and create a safe space for exploring online safety topics and online experiences.

Episode overview

Meet Hector and his friends as they finish the school day and head home for some free time. In this episode we learn about some of the ways they use technology and the web to fit in with their interests and personalities.

Background Information

Young people are growing up with greater access to digital technology than any other generation. They understand and adapt quickly to the opportunities, and sometimes face challenges too, so it's beneficial for parents and whānau to understand online risks and how to support their child to have a safe and positive experience online.

When starting a conversation about online safety consider these points:

- Aim to understand the online activities and experiences your child engages in or wants to explore. Talk to them about what they do online and why, how they use devices and who they're talking to.
- Take the time to tune in to the conversation – what might seem like just a game to you might be the way your child is connecting and interacting with people they don't know.
- Have regular conversations about their online activities to build your understanding of what your child is doing online so you can notice if anything changes.

Building this knowledge of your child's online activities can help to minimise the damage if things go wrong online; parents often say that they find it beneficial to have discussions about the apps their kids are using, the games they are playing and websites they like visiting. These conversations will provide insight and understanding about what help and guidance they might need now or in the future.

The logo for 'HECTOR'S WORLD' is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly rounded and have a white outline. A small trademark symbol (TM) is located at the bottom right of the word 'WORLD'. The logo is positioned on a light blue, rounded rectangular base that resembles a rock or a piece of coral.

Conversation starters

- What do you think the internet is? How long do you think it's been around for?
- What do you like doing when you are on the internet? Who do you do those things with?
- What apps/ games/ platforms do you like to use? Why?
- How do you think you can stay safe? What are some of the things you don't like about being online?
- What makes an online friend different to an offline friend?
- Do you think that everything on the internet is okay for kids to see, or is some of it only meant for adults?
- Have you seen anything online that made you feel uncomfortable? What did you do?
- How do you know that what you are watching or playing is good for children to watch?

Further reading

Netsafe's Online Safety Parent Toolkit is available in a range of languages, and recommends a 7-step approach to support your child with online safety.

Review the [7-steps for online safety](#).

Learn more by viewing or downloading the [Online Safety Parent Toolkit](#).

[Netsafe's Family Safe Online Treaty](#) supports whānau to have an open conversation together and contribute to some common guidelines for being online.