Playing IT Safe
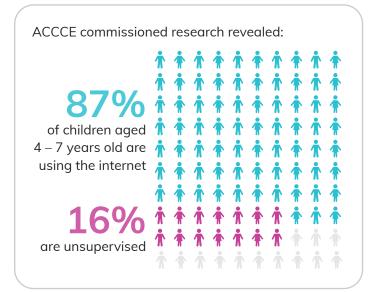
Playing IT Safe is an early childhood online safety initiative for prior to school aged children teaching them to use networked technology in safe and appropriate ways and to support parents, carers and educators to develop approaches and systems that keep children safe online.

Playing IT Safe aims to provide an introduction to online safety education through preventative messaging, a series of digital play-based and offline activities that children can undertake in early learning settings and at home, along with resources for parents, carers and educators.

ACCCE commissioned research revealed:

87%
of children aged 4 – 7 years old are using the internet

16%
are unsupervised

Playing IT Safe includes:

- Resources for educators: Play-based activities for infants, toddlers and pre-school aged children for educators to use and adapt to their pre-school room or early learning environment, and guiding documentation.
- Resources for parents and carers: Information sheets to support creating a family culture that allows children to be safe and supported when using technology and playing or spending time online. The information sheets are also connected to the 'Let's Play!' section.
- Let's Play!: A series of digital interactive activities for parents and carers to play with their children at home, or for educators to consider when introducing to the pre-school room or early learning environment.

Research by the eSafety Commissioner found:

the highest concern of parents of children (2-5) accessing the internet is being exposed to other content not appropriate for their age

39%
Felt this way

Playing IT Safe has been developed in collaboration between the Alannah and Madeline Foundation, the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation and the eSafety Commissioner.

The resources for Playing IT Safe were developed with early childhood experts to ensure content is age-appropriate, and were tested in early learning settings including pre-schools as part of the development process.

Visit playingitsafe.org.au for resources, tools and information.