**Behavior:** Computer/ iPad

**Why/Purpose:** To be respectful, responsible, safe, and productive at home.

* To teachchildren to use computers/ iPad properly and safely.

**Teaching Examples***: The following are situations that your child might find himself in. Use these examples to discuss with your child how to make good decisions when using a computer.*

* **Food/ Drink**: Your child was using the iPad and became thirsty. Your child went to the kitchen to get a drink and brought it back into the room in which the iPad was in. The drink was set down near the iPad. Talk to your child about what could happen if the drink spilled onto the equipment. How long does it take to repair a computer? How much does it cost? Ask your child if it is worth taking a chance that it might spill.
* **Instant Messaging**: Your child is using your home computer to look up information on Japan. As your child is reading some interesting information an instant message appears from somebody that your child does not know. Tell your child your expectations about responding to instant messages from strangers. Talk about why you have these expectations. Discuss your expectations for using the Internet in general (ex. which sites your child is allowed to use, how long can your child stay on the computer at a given time). Discuss the fact that using the computer is a privilege. Let your child know that you have to trust him/her to follow your expectations in order to have the privilege of using the computer independently.
* **Up too late**: Your child wants to finish a level on a game they are playing. You tell them that it is time to go to bed. Your child grumbles a bit but goes to get ready for bed. Half an hour later you notice some light coming from below your child’s door. You enter the room only to find them still playing a game. Discuss your expectations for bedtimes. Let your child know that you have to trust him/her to follow your expectations in order to have the privilege of using the computer independently. Another option is to keep the iPad/computer in your room at night to avoid the temptation of staying up late playing a game or surfing the Internet.
* **Charging:** Your child is using their iPad both at home and at school. This week they have a big project that requires them to create a keynote about a specific topic. When your child finishes the project they put their iPad in their backpack so that they don’t forget it in the morning. Upon arriving to school they realize that they only have 2% battery left and are unprepared for the day. Your child is unable to participate in an activity using the iPad and instead has to take their notes by hand. When your child gets home, discuss ways to be prepared technologically. Have a designated “Charging Station” and/or have a rule that the iPad must be put away and charging by a certain time each day. Be sure to choose a location that will not be tempting to your child.

**Activities/ Role Plays:**

1. Discuss your consequences for misusing a computer/iPad
2. Talk to you child about long-term consequences for misuse of technology. Once something goes viral – It can’t be taken back and is there for everyone to see.
3. The use of messaging and texting does not replace the value of face-to-face conversation. Also others can misinterpret what you are trying to say.
4. Spend some time on the computer with your child to model for him/her appropriate computer use.

**Follow-up/Reinforcement Activities:**

1. Remind your child of your expectations before he/she uses the computer/iPad.
2. Thank your child for following your expectations for being safe on the computer/iPad.