

What is TEXTING?

Children often communicate through text messaging using what may appear to be a foreign language! Texting is a type of shorthand used with such programs as *MSN*, *Gtalk* and *Yahoo Chat*, as well as through cell phones. How can you decode this 'language'? Here is a guide to some common abbreviations that you may see when your child talks with others online.



LOL *laugh out loud*
IDK *I don't know*
IDC *I don't care*
ROFL *rolling on the floor laughing*
BTW *by the way*
BRB *be right back*
POS *parent over shoulder*

A/S/L *age/sex/location*
RUMORF *are you male or female?*
AFK *away from keyboard*
CU *see you*
BBL *be back later*
WTG *way to go*
P911 *parents in the room, watch what you say*

Helpful Resources

Talk with your child's teacher or principal if you need more information about Literacy with ICT. Below are some other resources that can answer your questions and help you participate in developing your child's literacy with ICT.

Canadian Centre for Child Protection. *CyberTip.ca; Canada's National Tipline.*

http://cybertip.ca/en/cybertip/information_for_parents/

The parents' page offers a discussion of cybersafety issues and a list of resources.

Phone: 204-945-5735

Child Find Ontario. *Stay Alert, Stay Safe.*

www.sass.ca/resparen.htm

A list of resources for parents can be viewed online, or downloaded and printed.

Phone: 866-543-8477

Hoffer, Eric. *Reflections on the Human Condition.*

1st ed. New York: Harper & Row, 1973.

Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC)

www.mapc.mb.ca/

MAPC offers parent seminars on Parenting the Net Generation.

Phone: 204-956-1770

Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth.

Literacy with ICT Across the Curriculum. Winnipeg, 2004-7.

www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/tech/lict/index.html

This is the official website of the Literacy with ICT initiative.

Phone: 866-626-4862

Media Awareness Network. *Be Web Aware.*

www.bewebaware.ca/english/default.aspx

Offers general information about the Internet, safety tips by age and more.

Phone: 800-896-3342

RCMP. *Internet 101.*

www.internet101.ca/en/parents.php

The "Tools for Parents" section of this site contains basic information and videos that can be viewed online or downloaded (very large files).

Phone: 800-896-3342

For more text messaging abbreviations, visit:

Chat Translator - Teen Angels site - www.teenangels.org/

Alphabetical guide to IM Lingo - Webopedia - www.webopedia.com/quick_ref/textmessageabbreviations.asp

Net Lingo - www.netlingo.com/emailsh.cfm

Literacy with ICT IS FOR ME!