

Dear Parent:

Your child is participating in **B4UCopy**, an educational program designed to educate students to respect copyrights, especially when using computer software. Made possible by the Business Software Alliance (BSA), the foremost organization dedicated to promoting a safe and legal digital world, this program also helps children understand the dangers they may face online and encourages them to use computer technology responsibly.

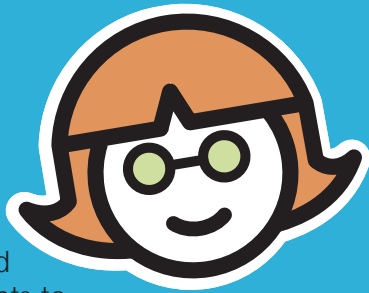
In school, your child is learning the rules against "piracy"—or making copies of copyrighted work without permission. Like shoplifting, piracy is a form of stealing and can have serious legal consequences.

We hope that you will build on these important lessons at home. The back cover of this brochure includes background information for you about recognizing and avoiding software piracy. Inside, the booklet opens up to create a mini-poster that lists Internet safety tips. Discuss these tips with your child and then hang or place the mini-poster near your home computer as a reminder to everyone to respect other people's work and to make smart choices while online.

Sincerely,



Diane Smiroldo  
Vice President, Public Affairs  
Business Software Alliance



## Some Questions to Ask



### Can I make copies of the software I purchase?

While you may use the computer software you purchase, the content actually belongs to the copyright holder and cannot be copied without permission. In most cases, software comes with permission to make a back-up copy, but there are usually restrictions on making copies for other purposes and even on putting a copy of the software on another computer. You can find these terms of use in the licensing agreement that appears on-screen when you first install the software program and which you must "Accept" before the software can be installed.

### Can I make copies of software that I borrow?

It is illegal to make copies of other people's software without the copyright holder's permission. This includes putting a copy of the software on your computer. The only legal way to use someone else's software is to use it on their computer.

### Can I use file-sharing software to exchange software with others over the Internet?

People who use file-sharing sites to upload and download copyrighted software without permission may be exposed to potential legal liability. File-sharing software:

- Gives other people access to your computer's hard drive and can lead to theft of the private information you have stored there, such as medical, financial and other personal records.
- Increases the chances that your computer will be attacked or disabled by a computer virus.
- May contain spyware, which is designed to report information about your online activities to a third party, compromising your computer's performance in the process.

### What are the consequences of piracy?

Criminal penalties for violating copyright can result in up to 5 years in prison and/or a fine of \$150,000 for every software title copied. These penalties apply even when the violation does not involve material gain. Copyright violators can also be sued for damages in civil court. In addition, parents of underage violators may be exposed to legal liabilities, even if they were unaware of their child's actions.

### For more information

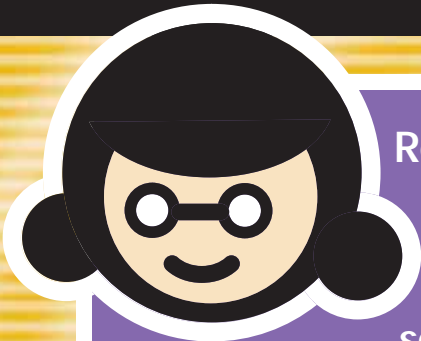
Visit the B4UCopy website at [www.B4UCopy.com/kids](http://www.B4UCopy.com/kids).



# An Educational Program on Respect for Intellectual Property

Information for Parents

# Use These Tips to Avoid Risks



Respect all forms of intellectual property that you find online—computer software, songs, stories, pictures, games, and movies.



Make sure you have permission from the copyright owner before you make a copy.

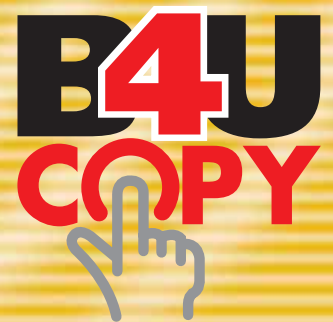


Never accept illegal copies of computer software online or on disk.

Never borrow or share computer software.



Beware of super discount computer software—you're probably buying an illegal copy.



Created by YMI, Inc.

To find out more, visit [www.B4UCopy.com/kids](http://www.B4UCopy.com/kids)

**Protect your identity on the Internet—never give out personal information or agree to meet an unknown “friend” without a parent’s permission.**