Creating a Comic

Today, we will be making our online safety comic strips.

Let's have a look at the spam email story and see how it would work as a comic strip.

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Box 1 - Title

✓ Think of a great title for your comic.

✓ Add a fun illustration that makes the reader want to read your story.

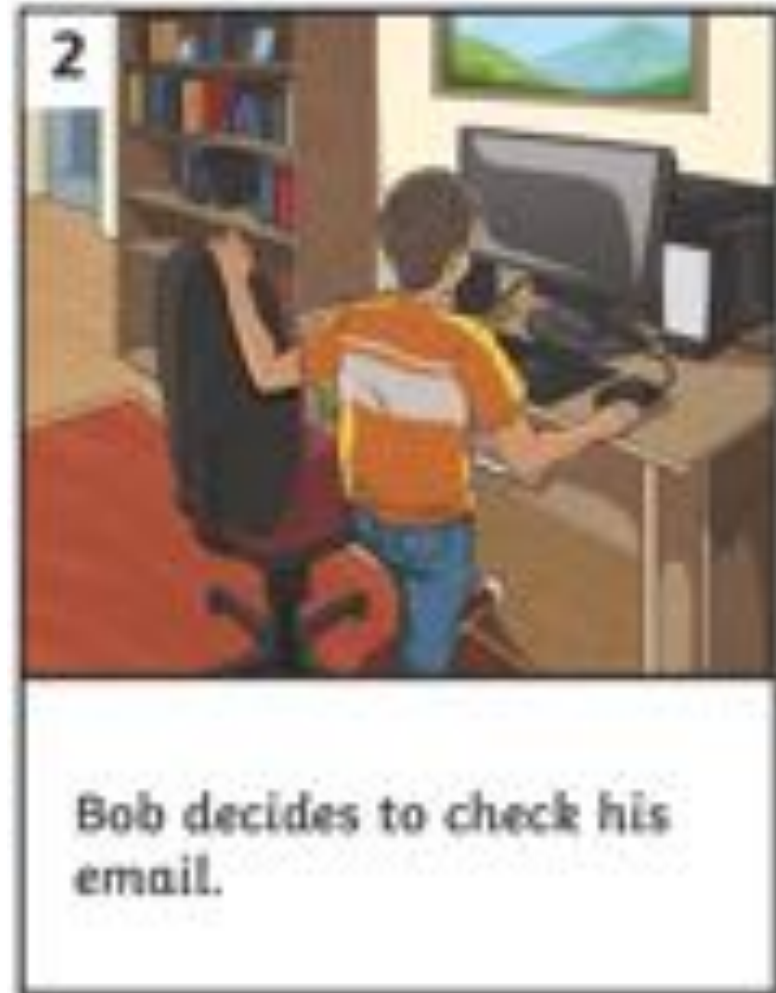✓ Use this box to write your name.

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Box 2

What online activity is the character taking part in?

Bob is checking his email.

✓ Draw a picture to show what is going on in each scene.

✓ Add a caption.

✓ You don't need to write a lot for each picture - just enough to tell the story.

Bob decides to check his email.

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Box 3

Why are they taking part in the activity?

Bob is checking for any messages from his friends and family.

✓ You don't need to show every detail in each box.

✓ A computer screen showing the unsafe behaviour may be clearer than showing a child sat at a screen.

He is looking for emails from his friends and family.

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Box 4

What does the character do wrong?

He spots an email telling him that he can have free pizza for a year. He opens the email and clicks on a link.

✓ Use speech bubbles to help tell the story.

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Box 5

What happens because of their unsafe online behaviour?

The link downloads a virus to his family computer. The virus deletes all the files on the computer and the computer no longer works.

✓ Some of your drawings might tell the story in the style of a comic book.

✓ They might not necessarily be realistic but the pictures help to tell the reader what is going wrong.

The link downloads a virus to the family computer! The computer stops working properly.

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Box 6

How do they feel now?

Bob feels guilty for breaking the computer. He also feels very worried that his family will be cross with him.

✓ Use thought bubbles to show us what the character is thinking or feeling.

✓ Comic books often show characters with exaggerated facial expressions so that the pictures tell us how they are feeling.

6 *Oh, no!*

Bob feels very guilty and worried. What will his family think?

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Box 7

What should they do now to avoid the situation getting worse?

Bob should tell his parents straight away and explain what has happened. He shouldn't click anything else on the computer.

✓ For example, the speech bubble here tells the reader what Bob's brother said when he told them about the computer virus.

Bob decides to tell his parents straight away.

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Box 8

What does the character do next time they are doing the same activity?

Bob should check the subject and the sender of the email carefully before he opens the email. If the email has been sent from a strange or unknown email address, or the subject sounds too good to be true, he should move the email to his junk folder without opening it.

✓ Your last box could show the character as a hero who has overcome the problem they faced earlier.

Next time, Bob moves any spam emails to the junk folder. Bob has defeated the evil email!