HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ACCESS IS A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

A recent survey conducted by SBC Communications Inc. shows that Internet speed is a major factor in determining where children connect to the Internet and what online tools they use to complete assignments.

› 70 percent of teenagers, 12 to 17 years old, with dial-up access at home prefer to log on to the faster Internet connection at school, while 77 percent of teens who have high-speed access at home prefer to log on there.

› 64 percent of preteens, 6 to 11 years old, with high-speed access download pictures or illustrations for a report or project compared with less than half of preteens with dial-up access.

› 70 percent of teenagers who have high-speed access are likely to watch a video clip or listen to an audio clip for help with a school assignment, but less than half of teens with dial-up access will do so.

› 68 percent of teens with high-speed access spend three hours or more online during an average week, while only 51 percent who have dial-up access spend that much time online.

FIVE POPULAR ACTIVITIES AMONG CHILDREN WITH HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ACCESS

1. Downloading. Download large Internet files, photos and illustrations quickly with a high-speed Internet connection to use for school reports and assignments.

2. Searching. Use high-speed Internet access to help perform quick searches, find specific information and access a number of academic resources.

3. Streaming. Stream high-quality video and audio clips with a high-speed Internet connection to help supplement school assignments.


5. Communicating. Keep in touch with friends and family by sending e-mail, and chat in real time with instant messaging.

QUICK FACTS

Use of the Internet for school-related activities:

› 65 percent of children with broadband access at home spend more time online. 37 percent watch less television and 23 percent get better grades than children without access. ("Connected to the Future," Corporation for Public Broadcasting, 2003.)

› 98 percent of public schools now have Internet access. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2003.)

› 76 percent of kids with broadband Internet access at home say that their home connection is faster than their school connection. ("Children, Families and the Internet," Grunwald Associates, 2003.)

› An overwhelming majority of parents, 83 percent, are satisfied with their children’s online use, with 81 percent believing that it is valuable to their children’s learning. ("Connected to the Future," Grunwald Associates, 2002.)

› Children ages 6 to 17 who use the Internet at home cite learning-related activities among their top-five everyday uses of the Internet. ("Connected to the Future," Grunwald Associates, 2002.)