

A WORD ABOUT SAFETY.....

Does Birdsong Do Background Checks?

No. Birdsongtutor.com is a free service. We do not undertake the expense of arranging and paying for background checks.

Can I Check the Background of the Tutor?

Yes! Background checks are easy now to do, and we recommend doing that. Two of several options are listed below.

- 1) Free National Sex Offender Search: Visit www.nsopw.gov and search the name of your tutor
- 2) Low Cost Background Searches: Visit www.directscreening.com

May I Change Tutors?

Sure. Simply contact us at (757) 217-2336 or via email at Amy.Sheyer@birdsonglife.com if you are ever uncomfortable. We will assign another tutor, when one is available.

Get to Know the Tutor and Thank Him or Her

We recommend that a parent or guardian have the first video chat (all chats are free) with the tutor and/or be present at least during the first online meeting between the student and their tutor. This gives you an opportunity to get to know your child's tutor as well as discuss administrative issues including time, day and frequency of sessions. Check out more helpful first meeting tips under the Tutor Resources.

Other Internet Safety Tips for Online Learning and Relationship Building

1. Be present during the initial tutoring sessions so you can get to know the tutor and feel comfortable. It can also give you an opportunity at the end of the session to provide the tutor with some information on how your child learns or other insights to enhance future sessions and to thank the tutor for volunteering.
2. If you are not in the room during the tutoring session, talk with your child afterwards. This allows you to learn how the sessions are going and get a check on if your child is comfortable working with the tutor.
3. Always have your child video chat with their tutor in a visible space in your home, such as a living or family room.
4. Discourage your children from sharing your home address, phone number or private email without asking the parent for permission first.