

THE CREDIT UNION COLUMN

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION YOUTH MONTH

April is National Credit Union Youth Month and our goal at Boulder Dam Credit Union is to inspire our young members to learn the importance of saving. Together, we're encouraging young members to set a financial path early in life to develop solid saving goals for their future. Youth Month presents an opportunity to celebrate the spirit of the credit union movement with our younger members. Our youth savings program, Moola Moola, not only encourages the development of savings habits at a formative age, but also has the potential to promote economic inclusion for entire families. Our high school financial literacy class allows students to learn the basics of finance and sets them on the road to success after graduation.

After all, we are people helping people build their futures and realize their dreams.

FRAUD IN YOUNGER GENERATIONS

Gen Z and Millennials are not immune to fraud. According to the FTC, younger adults (ages 20-29) reported losing money more often than older adults (ages 70-79).

From phishing (fraudulent emails), smishing (fraudulent text messages), and spoofing (fraudulent phone calls), to romance scams, cryptocurrency scams or fake job and scholarship schemes, there is no shortage of fraud in our media-saturated world. Boulder Dam Credit Union is committed to protecting all members of our community – of all ages, walks of life, and backgrounds – from the threat of scams and fraud by empowering them with information on trends and what to look for. There are a few red flags that almost always indicate nefarious intent:

- Someone offering you free money? It's a scam.
- Someone you've never met in person asking you for money, gift cards, or your online banking credentials (usually in an urgent manner)? It's a scam.
- Someone contacts you through social media unsolicited? It's a scam.
- You receive a work-from-home job offer that seems a *little* too good to be true? It's a scam.
- You receive a text message from a bank that you do not have a relationship with? It's a scam.

PROTECT KIDS ONLINE

Ensuring children's online safety is paramount in today's digital age. Here are some tips to help protect children while they're online:

1. Open Communication: Keep an open dialogue with your children about their online activities. Encourage them to share their experiences and any concerns they may have.
2. Set Clear Rules and Boundaries: Establish clear guidelines regarding the time spent online, appropriate websites and apps, and acceptable behavior while using digital devices.
3. Educate About Online Risks: Teach children about potential online dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content, online predators, and scams. Help them understand the importance of privacy and not sharing personal information.
4. Use Parental Controls: Enable parental controls on devices and internet browsers to restrict access to inappropriate content. Many devices and apps offer built-in parental control features that allow you to monitor and limit your child's online activities.
5. Supervise Online Activities: Monitor your child's online activities regularly, especially for younger children. Be aware of the websites they visit, the people they interact with, and the content they consume.
6. Teach Critical Thinking Skills: Encourage children to think critically about the information they encounter online. Teach them to question the credibility of sources and to be cautious of misleading or false information.

By implementing these tips and maintaining open communication with your children, you can help them navigate the online world safely and responsibly.

WORDS OF WISDOM

"Why fit in when you were born to stand out?"

– Dr. Seuss



Boulder Dam Credit Union
530 Ave G, Boulder City
(702) 293-7777
www.boulderdamcu.org



ACCOUNTS INSURED UP TO \$500,000



American Share Insurance insures each account up to \$250,000. Excess Share Insurance Corporation provides up to an additional \$250,000 of insurance per account. This institution is not federally insured.