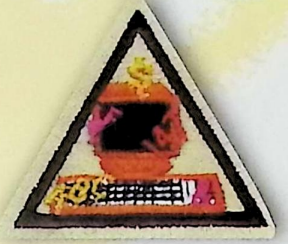


# Point, Click, and Go



Learning how to use a computer is fun. The computer can help bring your ideas to life with words, pictures, colors, and numbers. You need to take care of your computer by keeping it safe from food and spills. Magnets can also hurt computers and disks, so they should not be kept nearby.

## 1. Making the Computer Work

If you have not used a computer before, ask someone to teach you:

- How to turn on the computer and start a program you want to use.
- How to use a mouse to make the computer do the jobs you want it to do. Point, click, go!
- How to handle disks and CD-ROMs to keep them clean.
- How and where to save something you create.
- How to print your work.
- How to turn off the computer when you are finished.

## 2. Computer Language

Learn the meanings of some special computer words and you will have an easier time communicating in our world of technology.

- Software.
- Modem.
- Cyberspace.
- Program.
- Database.
- Hardware.
- Icon.
- Font.
- Memory.

As you hear other new computer words, do some detective work to learn their meanings, too.

## 3. Writing a Story

Use a computer to write your own story or poem or write a group story with your friends. One girl writes the first sentence. Someone else writes the next sentence. And so on.

Your computer may be able to check your spelling. If so, does your story have spelling errors? Correct any errors and print your story. Add colorful drawings.

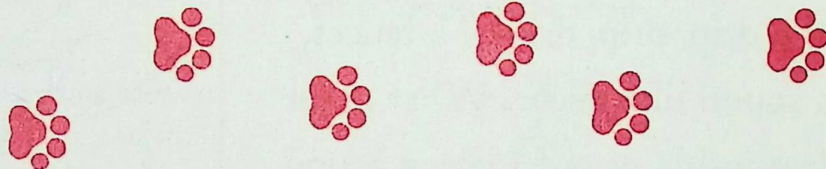
Mom called from the den.

"Here Kitty, here Kitty," said

Mom. Susie, my callico cat didn't

come. Red paw prints were all over

the carpet



#### 4. Playing a Game

Lots of games have been made for computers. With the help of someone in your family or a teacher, get a computer game and play it. What do you like about the game? How would you change it to make it more fun? Harder? Easier?

#### 5. Creating

Use a computer to make an invitation to a party, write a thank-you note, or make your own stationery. Print your creation and share it with others.

#### 6. Talk Time

Some computers are linked together by telephone lines so that people can send messages to each other. Ask an adult to go "online" with you and send messages to other girls who are using computers. Many computer online services provide safe places for kids to talk to each other. They are called "chat rooms." Talk to a parent or guardian or a teacher about a time when you can talk with other girls together.

**Try It!**