

Digital Citizenship and Online Safety

Lesson: Introduction to Digital Citizenship

ISTE Standard: 7: Global Collaborator (7a)

Lesson: Understanding the importance of digital responsibility and creating a positive digital footprint

Objective:

- Students will understand the importance of digital citizenship and online behavior.
 - Students will create a personal digital citizenship pledge that outlines steps to maintain a positive digital footprint and online behavior.
 - Students will analyze their own digital footprints and evaluate their online presence for improvements.
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Materials:

- Computers or tablets with internet access
 - Projector and screen for videos and presentations
 - Whiteboard and markers
 - Handouts on digital citizenship and digital footprint
 - Digital Footprint self-assessment worksheet
 - Google Forms or quiz tool for assessment
 - Paper and pens for writing pledges
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Safety Precautions:

- Ensure students understand the importance of privacy and personal safety online. Remind them never to share personal information like their full name, school, or contact details online unless they are certain of the platform's safety. Encourage reporting any harmful or suspicious online behavior to a trusted adult or teacher immediately.
 - Stress the importance of securing personal accounts with strong passwords and logging out of shared computers.
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Procedures:

1. **Introduction** (10 minutes):
 - Begin by asking students to share what they know about digital citizenship and its importance.
 - Show an introductory video that highlights the key concepts of digital citizenship, including the importance of online respect, privacy, and safety.
 - Lead a brief class discussion on how their online behavior could impact their reputation and relationships.
2. **Activity: Digital Footprint Self-Assessment** (20 minutes):
 - Provide each student with a Digital Footprint self-assessment worksheet.
 - Have students complete the worksheet, where they assess their current online presence (e.g., social media, comments, blog posts) and identify areas where they can improve.
 - Allow time for students to reflect on their digital behavior and how it might affect their future.
3. **Class Discussion: Positive Online Behavior** (15 minutes):

- Present several real-life scenarios (both positive and negative) involving online behavior, including issues like cyberbullying, oversharing, and respecting others online.
 - Ask students to discuss and identify which behaviors exemplify good digital citizenship. Highlight how responsible online behavior can lead to better opportunities and a positive online reputation.
4. **Creating a Digital Citizenship Pledge** (15 minutes):
- After the class discussion, have each student create their own personal Digital Citizenship Pledge.
 - The pledge should outline how they will contribute to maintaining a positive digital footprint, including how they will behave responsibly online, protect their privacy, and respect others' privacy.
 - Collect the pledges for assessment.
5. **Assessment & Reflection** (10 minutes):
- Distribute a brief quiz or Google Form with questions about the lesson content (digital citizenship, digital footprint, and online safety).
 - Students will complete the quiz to check for understanding. Review and discuss the results as a class to clarify any misconceptions.
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Note: Clean-up

Ensure that all students log out of their accounts, close browsers, and leave the workstations clean. Make sure any printed materials, such as handouts or worksheets, are stored properly and recycled if no longer needed.