Digital Citizenship (3-5)

Digital Media Studies

Grade(s) 3rd - 5th, Duration 1 Year
Required Course

Course Overview

This course addresses key components of the digital experience: internet safety, privacy and security, relationships and communication, cyberbullying, digital footprint and reputation, self image and identity, information literacy, creative credit and copyright.

The cross-curricular units spiral to address digital literacy and citizenship topics in an age-appropriate way.

Scope And Sequence

Timeframe	Unit	Instructional Topics
Ongoing	Using the Internet Responsibly	1. Safety and Privacy 2. Passwords and Intellectual Property 3. Connecting and Communicating Safely

Materials and Resources

Common Sense Media educational resources (https://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators/scope-and-sequence)

Course Details

Unit: Using the Internet Responsibly

Duration: Ongoing

Unit Overview

Students will learn the basics of using the internet responsibly and safely.

Topic: Safety and Privacy

Duration: Ongoing

Topic Overview

Students will discuss issues which could arise in the course of using internet resources. They will learn practical steps to maximize their safety and guard their privacy.

Learning Targets

Rings of Responsibility

Students explore what it means to be responsible to and respectful of their offline and online communities as a way to learn how to be good digital citizens.

Private and Personal Information

How can you protect yourself from online identity theft? Students think critically about the information they share online.

The Power of Words

Students consider that they may get online messages from other kids that can make them feel angry, hurt, sad, or fearful. Students identify actions that will make them Upstanders in the face of cyberbullying.

The Key to Keywords

Students learn strategies to increase the accuracy of their keyword searches and make inferences about the effectiveness of the strategies.

Whose Is It, Anyway?

Students learn that copying the work of others and presenting it as one's own is called plagiarism. They also learn about when and how it's acceptable to use the work of others.

Topic: Passwords and Intellectual Property

Duration: Ongoing

Topic Overview

Students will discuss issues which could arise in the course of using internet resources. They will learn practical steps to maximize their safety and guard their privacy.

Learning Targets

Strong Passwords

Students learn how to create secure passwords in order to protect their private information and accounts online.

Digital Citizenship Pledge

Students work together to outline common expectations in order to build a strong digital citizenship community. Each member of the class signs a "We the Digital Citizens" Pledge.

You've Won a Prize!

Students learn what spam is, the forms it takes, and then identify strategies for dealing with it.

How to Cite a Site

Students reflect on the importance of citing all sources when they do research. They then learn how to write bibliographical citations for online sources.

Picture Perfect

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Students learn how photos can be altered digitally. They will consider the creative upsides of photo alteration, as well as its power to distort our perceptions of beauty and health

Topic: Connecting and Communicating Safely	Duration: Ongoing

Topic Overview

Students will discuss issues which could arise in the course of using internet resources. They will learn practical steps to maximize their safety and guard their privacy.

Learning Targets

Talking Safely Online

Students learn that the Internet is a great place to develop rewarding relationships. But they also learn not to reveal private information to a person they know only online.

Super Digital Citizen

Students explore Spider-Man's motto, "with great power comes great responsibility" through the lens of digital citizenship. They create comic strips show a digital superhero who witnesses an act of poor digital citizenship, and then helps resolve it.

Privacy Rules

Students learn that children's websites must protect their private information. They learn to identify these secure sites by looking for their privacy policies and privacy seals of approval.

What's Cyberbullying?

Students explore how it feels to be cyberbullied, how cyberbullying is similar to or different than in-person bullying, and learn strategies for handling cyberbullying when it arises.

Selling Stereotypes

Students explore how the media can play a powerful role in shaping our ideas about girls and boys. They practice identifying messages about gender roles in two online activity zones for kids.