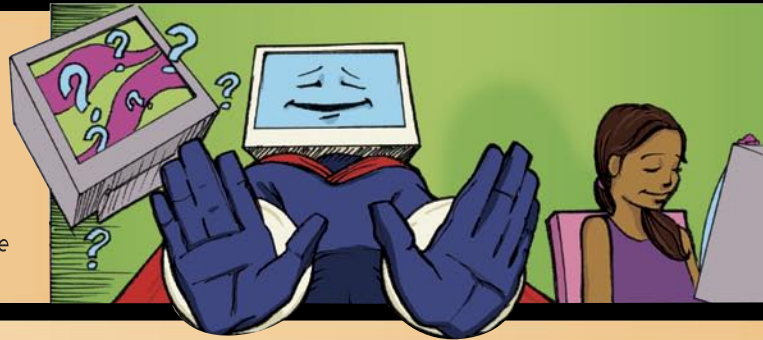


PROTECT YOUR CYBERSPACE

Safety with Cyberpals

Students may develop online relationships with a cyberpal, someone who is not a face-to-face friend. These online relationships may be rewarding, providing a chance for students to vent feelings, test ideas or explore common interests outside of the school community. The term "face-to-face friends" is used instead of "real" friends because cyberpals can be as "real" to students as their school friends.



What Students Need to Know

All students should learn to distinguish between cyberpals and face-to-face friends.

Elementary School students should learn to apply the same safety rule in cyberspace as they use when encountering strangers in the face-to-face world: never reveal private information to a person they only know in cyberspace without permission from a parent or teacher.

Junior High students can discuss the concept of anonymity in cyberspace and infer that cyberpals remain strangers to them. These students should learn to differentiate between what information is OK to share and what is NOT OK to share.

Ideas for Discussion

Have students read the cyberpal situations in the Web Watchers activity book. Then guide students to consider the following:

Elementary School Students

- Sometimes sharing feelings with a cyberpal is easier than with a face-to-face friend. Why?
- Have you ever pretended to be someone you are not? Cyberpals might pretend sometimes too.
- What should you do when a cyberpal asks for private information?

Junior High Students

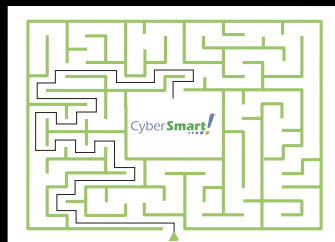
- Benefits of meeting: They might make a new face-to-face friend and have a good time.
- Drawbacks of meeting: They might not like one another. The other person might be very different than they were led to expect. If they do become face-to-face friends, they may lose out on some of the benefits of anonymity.
- Hearing the safety alarm bell in your head: Meeting a stranger is a potentially dangerous situation. On the other hand, this might just be a friendly person. You just don't know. No matter how close you feel to your cyberpal, this is a stranger.
- Is meeting OK? : The safe answer is no—not without asking permission of a parent or guardian and taking one of them along to the meeting.

Be CyberSmart!

For professional development and free CyberSmart! Curriculum on the critical thinking skills required for effective Internet use go to www.cybersmart.org

Activity Solutions

Elementary School



Junior High

Students should adopt a critical thinking process empowering them to protect any private identity information that reveals who they are or where they can be found. Private Identity Information is circled.

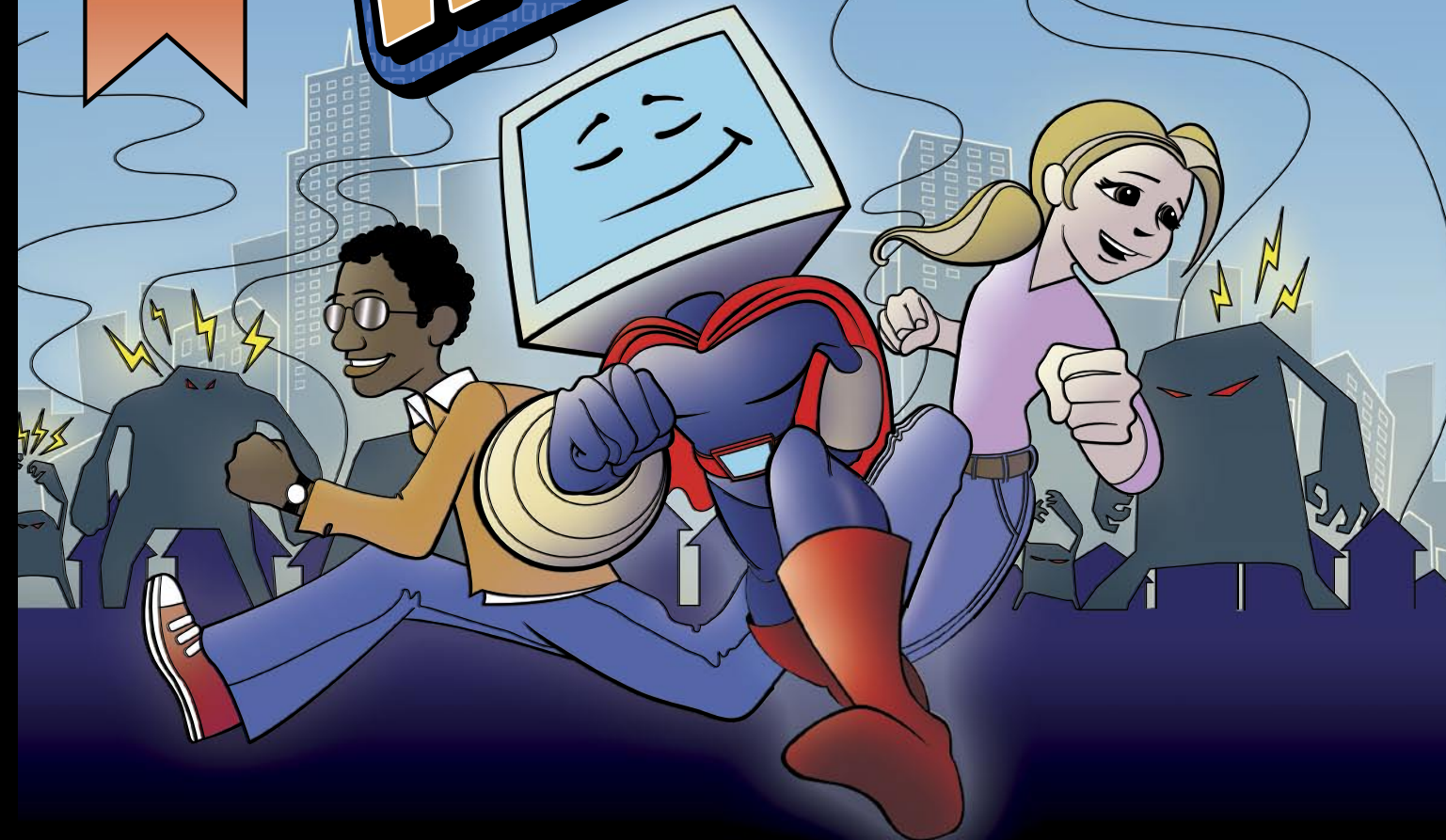
Your Full Name	Your Feelings About Something
Your School Name	Your Mother's Maiden Name
Your Hair Color	Your Age
Your Address	If You are a Boy or Girl
Your Favorite Band	Your Photo
Your Pet's Name	The Sports You Play
Your Password	Your Phone Numbers
Your Favorite Movie	The Last Book You Read

Microsoft®

WEB WATCHERS

Be CyberSmart!

Teachers Guide



Teaching Internet literacy to students is a shared responsibility of educators and parents. Using the Internet effectively, responsibly and securely has become an essential literacy skill. That's why it's important to teach students how Web Watchers can "Be CyberSmart!"

Web Watchers learn that being CyberSmart! means knowing how to manage the unique challenges of cyberspace. For elementary students, it is a matter of learning basic rules. Older students can go beyond memorizing rules and, using critical thinking skills, learn what is required of all citizens in a networked community.

This teacher guide will enhance your discussions with students and help them, in turn, Be CyberSmart!®

CLICK AND WIN

WebWatchersOnline.com

Visit WebWatchersOnline.com and help your favorite school grow its technology budget with computers and software.

Go to www.WebWatchersOnline.com for complete rules and entry. No purchase necessary; void where prohibited; conditions and restrictions apply. Voting open until 3/31/05. Complete the tutorial and then VOTE for your favorite school.

Schools are eligible to win one of these cash prizes:

- Five (5) Grand Prize Awards of \$5,000
- One Hundred (100) 1st Prize Awards of \$1,000

PROTECT YOUR COMPUTER



Handling E-mails and Instant Messaging (IM)

Messaging is as exciting and useful for learning as it is critical to the workplace.

What Students Need to Know

All students should learn the strategies for responsible and secure management of unsolicited commercial E-mail (spam) and unsolicited instant messages (spim). These messages can be uncomfortable, upsetting, even scary—or just plain surprising and annoying.

Elementary School students are happy to get any mail and don't understand what is so "junky" about electronic junk mail. They should learn that unwanted and unsolicited messages are mass commercial messages. They should also understand some simple safety rules to manage these.

Junior High students can analyze tricky subject headings and messages and learn that responding to spam and spim often results in more unwanted messages. Older students can also explore the importance of safe and secure management of their messages and the value of installing an Internet firewall and up-to-date antivirus software.

Ideas for Discussion

Have students read the E-mail situations in the Web Watchers activity book. Then guide students to consider the following:

Elementary School Students

- Why is it so easy to get confused and accidentally open an E-mail?
- Invite students to share experiences in which they received an E-mail with a subject line that tried to 'trick' them into opening it. Allow them to explain how they might recognize this trick, and how they would handle it now that they are more knowledgeable.
- What do you do if you accidentally clicked on a link or opened an attachment that you didn't mean to? Tell students that it is never a good idea to keep secret something that makes them uncomfortable. Have them consider that adults who use the Internet will understand the problems associated with spam and spim.

Junior High Students

- What happens when viruses or worms get unleashed? Extend the discussion to include: damage to their computer; damage to their digital files; damage to all the computers they send messages to; costs of identity theft; customer service disruption; economic damage to companies; and national security breaches.
- Why are spam and spim most often the carriers of worms and viruses? Because they provide easy ways to trick thousands of computer users into passing the infection along.

Activity Solutions

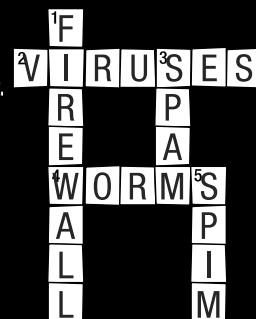
Elementary School

Down

1. It doesn't stop a fire; it protects your computer.*
3. It rhymes with ham, but you can't eat it and you shouldn't reply to it.
5. Never chat with a stranger; you might get this.

Across

2. What makes your computer sick?
4. Click on a link from a stranger and you invite these wiggly creatures into your computer.



Junior High

Across

1. If you reply to this, the sender knows your E-mail account is "live".
6. Combining letters, numbers and symbols makes this stronger.

Down

2. Keep this software up-to-date or you are not protecting your computer
3. Download a strange attachment or free software from an unknown company and risk these.
4. It doesn't stop a fire, it protects your computer.*
5. Never chat with a stranger because you don't want this.



*Firewalls help block computer viruses and worms from reaching your computer.

PROTECT YOURSELF

Filling Out Online Forms Creating Strong Passwords

The power and excitement of the Internet comes alive when exploring the many online collaborative learning opportunities that may enhance existing curriculum. School safety issues move into cyberspace as students meet the challenges of protecting their private identity information and using hard-to-guess passwords.



What Students Need to Know

All students should learn what information is private and recall the safety rule that private information should not be given out in cyberspace without permission of a parent, guardian or teacher.

Elementary School students should learn the kinds of private information and how to apply the safety rule when encountering Web sites that ask for private information even if they really want to play the game, win the prize or find information for their homework assignment.

Junior High students can also explain the importance of passwords and identify a hard-to-guess password that protects private identity information. Older students are developmentally able to distinguish the difference between private identity information and information that is okay to share in cyberspace.

Ideas for Discussion

Have students read the information related to 'Protect Yourself' in the Web Watchers activity book. Then guide students to consider the following:

Elementary School Students

- Discuss each type of private identity information in the "Be CyberSmart! What's Private?" box, making sure students understand each category.
- After students read "Use the Permission Rule," discuss the fact that even though there are grown-ups around when they go into cyberspace, they are at the controls. They have an important responsibility to stop and get their parent or adult.
- After students read "Some Web Sites ask for Private Identity Information," invite students to share experiences in which they were asked to fill out an online form (to enter a contest or join a club). Allow them to describe the appealing characteristics of the offer. Point out that although they may like certain characters or companies and the offers they make, they should treat them as strangers.

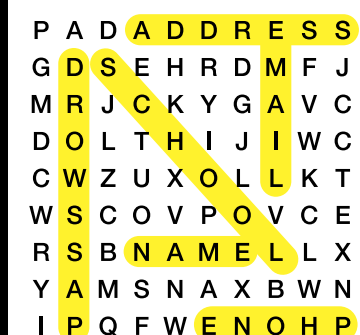
Junior High Students

- Discuss each type of private identity information in the "Be CyberSmart!" box and make sure students understand each one. Consider that students need to stop and think "Am I being asked to give out information that reveals who I am or where I can be found?" Have students provide examples of the kinds of information that can be shared safely. [Examples: hair color, their ideas, what foods they like, their age, favorite movies]
- Have students evaluate the passwords provided below "Hard-to-Guess Passwords". Explain that students came up with details about themselves and created a short story without revealing any private identity information. Invite students to think about creating their own good passwords. Suggest that they create a "story" about their favorite book or movie that they can easily recall but that others could not guess.

Activity Solutions

Elementary School

PASSWORD
NAME
ADDRESS
SCHOOL
PHONE
EMAIL



Junior High

All of the passwords are strong because they use at least 8 characters, combine numbers, letters and symbols and do not reveal any private identity information. They are easy to remember for each student but not easy for others to guess.

