

5th Graders on the Net...Oh My

Joe Showker, ITRT Rockingham County Schools

Overview-

Topic: Technology, Internet Safety, Child Safety.

Internet Safety Instruction is now mandated by the Congress of Virginia. RCPS schools have implemented extensive instruction at the 8th grade level over the past 5 years. The DOE has published a guide for this instruction. In the guide schools are encouraged to instruct to students, parents and community. This 45 minute session will give the 5th grader an introductory overview and basic knowledge of risks on the internet including predators and giving away too much personal information.

Time Allotment-

45 minutes with Q&A

Media Components-

- a single computer with web browser and powerpoint player
- LCD projector with screen
- Sound for the video clips in the powerpoint
- An internet connection is preferred to visit some of the sites in the lesson if time permits
- Video Clips from Netsmartz.org stored on the CD, copied to the Hard drive
- Recommended to copy the entire folder to the hard drive of the computer so it will run properly.

Web Resources:

Online games at Netsmartz.org if in a lab

<http://www.netsmartzkids.org/games/index.htm>

Online Flash Safety Quiz

http://www.msn.staysafeonline.com/kids/activities/internet_safety_quiz.html

Online Terms Flash Game

<http://www.msn.staysafeonline.com/kids/games/index.html>

Shrink the Bully Game(click game bottom of page)

<http://www.mcgruff.org/advice/cyberbullies.php>

Watch FauxPaw the techno cat

http://ikeepSAFE.org/iksc_statemessage/state.php?abbr=VA

Learning Objectives-

The student will:

- Understand the need to communicate with parents and obey home rules for internet use.
- Understand the need to communicate with parents should they view anything that makes them feel uncomfortable or may be unacceptable such as violence, adult material, or illegal.
- Learn about the dangers of giving too much personal information such as name, address, telephone number, or parent/guardian information.
- Understand there are predators on the internet
- Agree to never meet someone in person they have met online. This is the most dangerous consequence of internet interactions.
- Learn about Instant Message and email risks and safe practices.
- Learn not to respond to messages that strangers or older people send them.
- Hear basic ethical issues explained such as File Sharing, Plagiarism, Password care, and intrusions on a home computers including viruses and hacking.
- Understand the dangers in downloading files over the internet

Learning Objectives reflect the pledge for students

- I will discuss simple internet guidelines with my parents. I promise to abide by these simple guidelines.
- I will tell an adult about anything I see or find on the internet that makes me feel uncomfortable or confused.
- I will not share information about my family, relatives or friends. I will not share my name, address, phone numbers, or the location of my house to anyone on the internet.
- I will not answer messages that make me feel uncomfortable, or are threatening to me or others. I will tell my parents or trusted adult about anything that makes me feel uncomfortable. I will not send threatening or mean messages to others.
- I will NEVER meet someone, from the internet, by myself. I will ask my parents for permission and help to meet someone in a public place.

Teacher Preparations-

Review the following web sites for content from Netsmartz

- Netsmartz.org Teacher page: <http://www.netsmartz.org/education/>
- Netsmartz activities for Virginia download at: <http://www.netsmartz.org/education/download/>
- video streams from Netsmartz at: <http://www.netsmartz.org/education/implement.html>

Update the powerpoint with the individual school's name

Update the handout " _____ " name at the bottom of the pledge sheet to reflect the school name

Run the powerpoint on the SAME computer you will use for the class. Make sure the video clips work.

The CD has been prepared with the "Pack and Go" feature to insure that the video clips will play during the presentation.

Run copies of the RCPS net safety pledge for all students

Ask the teacher about giving extra credit to the students in some manner for bringing back the signed form for credit.

Introductory Activity-

Conduct a brief survey of the students

1. How many have an internet connection at home
2. How many use instant message or email
3. How many of you have a myspace page?
4. How many of you have ever been to a place on the internet that made you feel uncomfortable or otherwise you knew it was a bad site?
5. How many of you have ever had your home computer hacked into or get a virus?

Tell the students that this instruction today is by no means a complete lesson. The internet is a growing changing thing. It will give them the basics to stay safe on the internet. They will receive instruction in the future as their use of computers increases.

Focus for Media Interaction-

Begin Powerpoint. During powerpoint there will be slides with video of netsmartz characters. Read the intro to the clip to focus attention then play the clip.

Learning Activities-

The Activity cards from Netsmartz provide a teacher with many additional activities if the time frame of the instruction is greater than a single 45 minute lesson. These cards are appropriate for lab aids to use if the classroom teacher cares to relinquish instructional time.

Culminating Activity-

Ask the students if the information they have seen is worth sharing with parents and family members.

Ask the students if their parents are concerned about this type of thing.

(you don't need them to answer...just ask the rhetorical question)

Give out handouts and discuss use of them. (2-Pledge, Content Notes)

Assessment-

In the 5th grade the assessment will consist of verbal confirmation during discussions with the classroom teacher post presentation. Students can play internet games at Netsmartz.org when given lab time or classroom free time. There are a huge variety of games at the Netsmartz page.

Community Connections-

PTAs at all the schools will be interested in hosting an internet safety night. Staff from the school division can be available for meetings with parents.

A newsletter to parents with net tips can keep communications with parents. iSafe produces a great newsletter. The schools web page should have links to net safe topics and/or portaportals set up for that purpose. The author's portaportal at www.portaportal.com, guest login: netsafety
Montevideo Middle School has an area for parents on netsafety

Cross Curricular Extensions-

Integrating internet safety involves communicating with core content teachers with topics for which to do research and/or writing assignments.

Computer instruction can foster net safety with activities throughout the year that stress ethical use of the internet. Computer instruction units on: ethical use of content, plagiarism, research and accuracy of web page, email etiquette are a few topics for specific lessons during computer instruction.

About the Author-

Joe Showker is a 28 year veteran teacher for Rockingham County. He is an Instructional Technology Resource Teacher. He is NETS*T Certified, MacWorld faculty, iSafe America certified and a consultant for the User-Group Network. He serves on the National Advisory Board for WebWiseKids.org.

He has spoken throughout Virginia including the Attorney Generals Child Safety Internet Task Force and on Capitol Hill in Washington on the topic of Internet Safety for Families. His computer classroom was the site of the "Missing" software rollout for the Southeastern United States.

Currently he is working with WebWiseKids.org, in the implementation of the "Missing" software into Virginia's middle schools and Congressman Robert Goodlatte's town meetings on Net Safety for Families. He is a collaborator with the VA Department of Education "Guidelines and Resources for Internet Safety in Schools". That publication steers internet safety instruction in Virginia in response to the mandated HB 58 (2006) public law.

5th Grade Internet Safety Pledge



1.____I will discuss simple internet guidelines with my parents. I promise to abide by these simple guidelines.

2.____I will tell an adult about anything I see or find on the internet that makes me feel uncomfortable or confused.

3.____I will not share information about my family, relatives or friends. I will not share my name, address, phone numbers, or the location of my house to anyone on the internet.

4.____I will not answer messages that make me feel uncomfortable, or are threatening to me or others. I will tell my parents or trusted adult about anything that makes me feel uncomfortable. I will not send threatening or mean messages to others.

5.____I will NEVER meet someone, from the internet, by myself. I will ask my parents for permission and help to meet someone in a public place.

My signature is my promise!

Student _____

Parent _____

Content Notes from the Net Safety Unit

1. The Internet: Educates Us, Entertains Us, Connects us

But... it also can give false information and open your home to the outside world and potentially harmful People

2. Some Basics

- The computer works on the net by accessing other computers at addresses with an application called a browser.
- “Surfing the web” is spending time searching for web pages using an address like Google or “Ask.com”.
- Email (electronic mail) and Attachments (items “stuffed” in the message) are ways to talk and send data to others.
- Chat and instant messaging is a way to talk to others with an application like AIM or YAHOO. It’s called “IMing” someone.
- Viruses, & hacking, are when bad people do bad things to others for unkind fun or money. Example: hacking a password.
- Plagiarism is copying someone’s work then calling it your own... it’s illegal.
- Passwords should be strong and hard to break vs Weak and easy to break.

3. Online Social Sites like Myspace.com are risky for young teens

Bad people called predators can watch and read your information.
Don’t give predators any reason to contact you.

4. Email Who? You don’t know!

5. Attachments - infect the computer.

6. Chat/Instant Messages

Use Different screen name just for chatting avoids Teresa’s problem.

7. File Sharing- Don’t be Pirate - Access to another computer or share YOUR files.

Download music?... save a file to YOUR computer from someone else’s computer.
Breaking copyright and legal use laws

8. The Internet is an ever

increasing part of our world...use it wisely!

9. Do the right thing on the internet:

- Realize that File Sharing and downloading music for free is illegal.
- Don’t Copy other peoples work. It’s stealing... called Plagiarism.
- Make up strong Passwords that use letters and numbers (not regular words or names)
- Ask your parents if your home computer is protected from hackers and viruses.

10. The Pledge is for parents and students to dicuss, then sign together.