

Digital Citizenship

Being a good digital citizen means to demonstrate and practice safe, responsible, and legal use of technology.¹ Devices are all around today, your child is around them all the time. Even if you limit their connection at home, they can get online through their friends or other means. So, developing your child's understanding of how and why it is important to practice electronic safety is something we all must be involved with.

There are a few good things to remember when operating an online device:

1. Never give out your password! This allows others to access your work.
2. Never give out your name, phone number and/or address! This can lead to others getting to you.
3. Think before you send something. Does this make sense? Will this hurt someone's feelings? Will they understand this is a joke (jokes are hard to recognize when written)? Don't send if you wouldn't say this to their face!
4. Never send pictures to someone you don't know well.
5. If you are mad at someone, don't email, text or electronically communicate with them. Talk to them face to face, if you need to talk with them.
6. Don't believe everything you read or see. Investigate by looking at other sources. Even if your best friend says they don't like you anymore, check other sources. Their accounts may have been hacked and someone is playing a trick on you.
7. Copyright laws state you can't take what someone else has written without giving that person credit. Some downloads are protected and they are not allowed to be saved. Things like movies and music may be protected by law and downloading is illegal. Respect others by not stealing their work.

Here are some sites to learn more about digital citizenship:

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/digital-citizenship-need-to-know-vicki-davis>

<https://edtechdigest.wordpress.com/2016/06/15/what-is-digital-citizenship/>

Videos

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/video/educators/digital-citizenship#>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8TjVyuBdsCkw7szlQEW-Q7KdCKKOpBPI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VnAU2Ibf2c>

¹Keira Lecian, [What Does Being a Good Digital Citizen Mean?](#), Prezi, March 4, 2014