

## *SEXTING: Empowering Students to Engage in Positive Communication*

### **Secondary Lesson 10**

**Lesson Title:** Am I safe on the Internet? Can I trust my friends?

**Description:** This lesson will highlight Internet safety.

**Objectives:** The students will be able to:

- Increase their awareness about internet safety
- Understand how “sexting” violates internet safety

**Standards-Based Student Development Program Benchmark(s):**

**Benchmark PS 1.0**

Student accepts responsibility for personal behavior

**Benchmark PS 1.4**

Identifying situations in which peer pressure might affect adherence to or violation of acceptable norms

**Springboard Activity:**

Distribute **Handout 1: KWL The Internet**. Ask students to begin completing the handout by writing down what they know about the internet so far.

**FCAT Benchmarks:**

- LA.A.2.4.7 Analyzes the validity and reliability of primary source information  
LA.A.7.3.5 Locate, organize and interpret written information  
LA.C.1.4.3 Uses effective strategies for informal and formal discussions

**Accommodations:**

Teachers of students with disabilities are mandated by state and federal law to provide accommodations as stated on the students' IEP. General accommodations and best practices are listed in the introduction.

**Instructional Time:** One class period

**Instructional Materials**

- Dry erase board and markers
- **Handout 10.1: KWL The Internet**

- **Handout 10.2: Student Glossary of Sites**
- **Handout 10.3: Glossary: Common Words Used Over the Internet**
- **Handout 10.4: Internet Safety Strategies for Students (Parts I and II)**

**Instructional Lesson:**

1. Ask students to complete **Handout 10.2: Glossary of Sites**. Instruct students, to leave the area blank, if they do not know or use the web site.
2. Review the difference between internet chat engines and communication boards. Both are similar since in both you are allowed to communicate and post comments.
  - a. Chat engines help you communicate, sometimes instantly e.g.; chat rooms, instant messaging, text/picture/video messages, gaming sites, blogs, e-mail, and message boards.
  - b. Communication boards are common vehicles include social networking sites e.g., MySpace, Facebook, Classmates.
3. Distribute **Handout 10.3: Glossary: Common Words Used over the Internet**.
4. Review vocabulary used while communicating (chatting) which may include flaming, harassment, denigration, exclusion, impersonation, outing and trickery.
5. Address the fact that these words are also ways of cyber bullying.
6. Distribute **Handout 10.4: Internet Safety Strategies for Students**.
7. Review the information with students to reinforce safe and responsible internet use.
8. Send the handout home for students to share and discuss with family members.

**Assessment:** Teacher observation, class participation and completion of activity.

**Follow-up Activities/Home Learning/Parent:** Send **Handout 10.4: Internet Safety Strategies for Students** home with students. Ask students to review the sheet with their parents and bring it back signed.

## Handout 10.1: KWL The Internet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

What do you <b>KNOW</b> ?	What do you <b>WANT</b> to know?	What did you <b>LEARN</b> ?



### **Handout 10.3: Glossary of Words Used Over the Internet**

**Flaming:** Online fights using electronic messages with angry and vulgar language.

**Harassment:** Repeatedly sending offensive, rude and insulting messages.

**Cyber stalking:** Repeatedly sending message that include threats of harm or are highly intimidating; engaging in other online activities that make a person afraid for his or her safety.

**Denigration:** “Dissing” someone online. Sending or posting cruel gossip or rumors about a person to damage his or her reputation or friendships.

**Exclusion:** Intentionally excluding someone from an online group, like a “buddy list” or a game.

**Trolling:** Intentionally posting provocative messages about sensitive subjects to create conflict, upset people, and bait them into “flaming” or fighting.

**Impersonation:** Breaking into someone’s account, posing as that person and sending messages to make the person look bad, get that person in trouble or danger, or damage that person's reputation or friendships.

**Outing and trickery:** Sharing someone’s secrets or embarrassing information online. Tricking someone into revealing secrets or embarrassing information, which is then shared online.

## Handout 10.4: Internet Safety Strategies for Students

### Part I

**Do not share the following private or personal information:**

- Your Full Name
- Your Home Address
- Your E-Mail Address
- Your Phone Numbers
- Passwords
- Calling Card Numbers
- Credit Card Numbers
- Social Security Number
- Mother's Maiden Name
- Your Age
- Your Gender
- Sibling Information
- Your Favorite Band
- Your Pet's Name

## **Handout 10.4: Internet Safety Strategies for Students**

### **Part II**

#### **Before going online...**

Talk with parents/guardians about rules for going online, such as the time of day and length of time you can be online, and sites you are allowed to visit. Do not visit other areas or break these rules without their permission.

Remember that no message is completely private, (review prior page) including e-mail and text messages. Your school and adult family members may be watching your online activity, and police can recover all messages, even if you have deleted them. If you are using the internet to harm others, chances are you will be caught and punished.

Be aware that many Internet Service Providers (ISP) have rules about online behavior. If you break them, your account—and every account in your home—could be canceled. If you break the law, you may also be reported to the police.

Make sure that you limit your internet use to a reasonable amount of time and ask yourself if you are keeping a healthy balance between online and in-person activities.

#### **While online...**

Never share private information about others and never say things that might violate the safety or rights of others, even if you mean it as a “joke.”

Limit the amount of personal information you share online and don't post your full name, school name, home address, phone number, and personal photos in places where strangers can find them.

Never share passwords, account IDs or PINs with others (even your best friend), with the exception of your parents/guardians—never hide this information from them.

Don't leave cell phones or other personal electronics (such as a laptop, iPhone, Blackberry, PDA, etc.) out of your sight.

Remember that some people are dishonest about their identity online. Avoid chatting with strangers on the internet. A friend you meet online may not be the best person to talk to if you are having problems.

Never send your picture or personal information to someone you only know online, and never meet an online friend in person without a parent /guardian's permission.

Do not open messages or attachments from people you don't know.

### **If you are the target of online bullying or aggression...**

- ◆ Don't respond to bullying or inappropriate messages, but save them as evidence.
- ◆ Discuss any online incidents that make you feel uncomfortable with a trusted adult, such as a family member, teacher or school counselor.
- ◆ Always report online bullying, hate incidents, inappropriate sexual activity and threats of harm to self or others to an adult family member (such as a parent), school authorities and the police.
- ◆ Block the e-mail addresses and cell phone numbers of people who are sending unwanted messages; if the messages continue, an adult family member can help you to change your phone numbers, e-mail addresses or screen names.
- ◆ File complaints with e-mail services, Internet Service Providers, web sites, cell phone companies, etc. Service providers can find the offenders, cancel their service, and report them to the police if necessary.
- ◆ When in doubt about what to do, log off the computer and ask for help from a trusted adult.