

Play by the Rules

Chapter 12: Technology

Objectives: The student will be able to

- Understand laws that apply to technology; and
- Identify safety measures while using the Internet.

Alabama Course of Study, Seventh Grade Civics: Objective 5

Character Education: Cooperation, honesty, diligence, patience, perseverance, respect for others and self-respect

Materials: *Play by the Rules* book, index cards, **Worksheets 12-1** and **12-2**

Methods: Brainstorming, directed reading, cooperative activity and decision making

Activities:

Review: Ask students if their parents or guardians helped with **Worksheet 11-2**. Tell the students to keep the worksheet for future use.

Pros & Cons of Using the Internet:

1. Create a chart on the board, overhead or large sheet of paper with two columns: “Pros” and “Cons.”
2. Ask the students to brainstorm the positive things about using the Internet. (*Examples: research, communicating with friends and family, playing games, etc.*). Write those things down under the “Pros” column.
3. Ask the students to brainstorm the negative things about using the Internet. (*Examples: incorrect information, identity theft, spam, cyber bullying, etc.*). Write those things down under the “Cons” column.
4. Tell students that today they will be studying laws about technology, including the Internet.

Directed Reading:

1. Read aloud the introductory paragraph on p. 59.
2. Ask how many of the students enjoy using the Internet. Ask the students what laws may apply to using the Internet.
3. Tell the students to silently read pp. 59-60.
4. Ask the students the following questions:

- a. What are copyright infringement laws? *Laws that protect the rights of copyright owners (p. 60)*
- b. When is it illegal to download music? *It is against the law to download music, movies or other media if you are violating its copyright. A copyright is the legal right granted to an author, composer, playwright, artist or publisher to exclusive publication, production, sale or distribution of an original literary, musical, dramatic or artistic work. (p. 60)*
- c. What is plagiarism? *Copying the work of others and representing it as your own. (p. 59)*
- d. What is computer hacking? *Gaining access to networks or computers without permission. (p. 60)*
- e. Why is it important to protect someone's computer from hacking? *Accept reasonable answers about privacy and security.*

Technology True or False:

1. Distribute **Worksheet 12-1**.
2. This activity may be done individually or in pairs. Have the students complete the worksheet and discuss the answers as a class.

Who Knows What?

1. Provide each student with five index cards (or have students divide and tear a sheet of paper into five equal parts).
2. Direct students to write their names on each of their index cards.
3. Ask the students to write the following words, one per card: "Password," "Secret," "Secret," "Lie" and "Lie."
4. Explain to students that they will be trading cards. They can trade one of their cards or a card they have received.
5. Ask all the girls to give one card away to a boy.
6. Next, tell all the boys to give one card away to anyone in the room.
7. For the next five to 10 minutes have students continue trading cards. You can use descriptions such as eye color, shirt color, favorite sports team, etc.
8. At the end of the five to 10 minutes, assess the location of the cards and discuss what information was given out. For example, ask how many students got a lie about John Doe. Have the students raise their hand if they currently have information about Bonnie Sue. Ask how many students received information about a student that they did not actually trade a card with.
9. Lead the class in a discussion about how things they tell others can easily be spread through online communication. Talk to students about the dangers they can encounter if they do the following:

- a. Share passwords: Even a best friend can become upset with you and decide to give your password away. If someone has your password, he or she can pretend to be you online.
- b. Share secrets: Secrets can be shared online without your knowledge or consent.
- c. Lie: Lies can be shared online that can lead to many consequences such as violence.
- d. Share with a stranger: Sharing any information online with a stranger can endanger your life. Do not ever share any information with a stranger online.

Directed Reading:

1. Have the students silently read pp. 61-62.
2. Discuss with the students the importance of Internet safety.
3. Review Internet safety tips and continue with **Worksheet 12-2**, the Internet Safety Pledge.
4. Ask the students to read and sign the pledge if they agree to be responsible Internet users.

Evaluation: Observation, feedback/questioning, accuracy of activities and Scoreboard (for Scoreboard directions see “Assessment.”)

Outside Resource Person (ORP): The following ORPs might be utilized: attorney, law enforcement officer or school resource officer (SRO).

Taking Home the Law: Ask the students to take **Worksheet 12-2** home and share it with their parents or guardians.

Extra Innings: TG p. 150