Go Safe Scotland

Digital Safety - Lesson Plans

Activity 2– Guess Who?

1. Sharing the Learning Outcomes -

• I can explain that a message can be understood in different ways by different audiences
• I can describe how a message can be traced back to its originator through a digital footprint
• I can explain what cyber bullying is and describe ways to get help for victims of cyber bullying

2. Active Learning - Begin with a quick game of 'Chinese Whispers' and then discuss the different ways you can send a message to another person such as e-mail, text, voice recording, social network sites, etc.
Talk about the different ways that messages can get distorted or misinterpreted, just like 'Chinese Whispers'.
Talk about ways that text messages can be misunderstood, including the use of abbreviations.

Use the online activity to look at some examples of written text messages. Work out the different ways a person might interpret the message being sent.

Discuss how it might feel to receive lots of negative messages. How would this affect you? Ensure the class knows that threatening or harassing someone using digital media is called cyber bullying.

Look at ways to identify who is sending harmful messages and strategies that can be used to deal with these problems such as blocking a sender, registering a complaint with a service provider or sharing the evidence with a responsible adult.

Remind the class that digital messaging systems store messages and discuss how this might affect a victim of cyber bullying who revisits a harmful message at a later date.

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3. Demonstrating Understanding - The children could:

- Research and make a list of the people that can help with cyber bullying such as school staff, charity organisations, police and service providers. Look at helpful websites and make a list of the best ones. (See links online.)
- Create a cyber bullying leaflet for parents, explaining what it is and how they could help.
- Make anti-cyber bullying posters to advertise good ways of getting help

4. Review and Recall - If you are researching a topic, how can you be sure that the information is true?

When sending messages it is important to think of your audience and ensure that your message is clear.
Cyber bullying is dangerous and can be very harmful to a person or group of people.
Cyber bullying is illegal.
There are organisations to help victims deal with cyber bullying

Activity:

In this activity you will learn:

Why it is important to make text messages clear.

Instructions

Laura's phone has received some messages but the numbers are unknown.
Click on a message to open it and choose which person you think sent it.
Think about how the person might have wanted the message to be interpreted.

Discussion/Questions:

Can you think of words or abbreviations that might have different meanings for different people?
What does 'Cool' mean to you? Does everyone in your class agree with your definition?
Have you ever misinterpreted a message sent to you electronically?

Plenary:

It is extremely quick and easy to use technology to send messages but it is important that we think carefully about the messages we send and how the message may affect someone.

Cyber bullying is illegal and can be very harmful.

There are lots of ways to get help for victims of cyber bullying.