Digital Citizenship Guide

We have completed all four weeks of our integrity unit. Now it's time to apply everything you have learned. Over the next week or two, we will be working towards creating a useful PowerPoint guide (can also do this in a paper based format if needed) to promote healthy digital citizenship online.

Integrity Sub-Concept(s)
Perseverance, Kindness

Project Timeframe
1-2 weeks, broken up as needed by class schedule

Required Materials
❏ Access to computers
❏ PowerPoint software (or other free online presentation options)

Optional if paper based option used:
❏ Blank paper
❏ Basic art supplies
❏ Magazines
❏ Scissors/glue
❏ Stapler

Standards Map
This project aligns with CASEL Competencies, National Health Education Standards, International Society for Technology in Education Standards, when applicable, and Common Core State Standards. Please refer to the Standards Map for more information.

You will then take your guide and present it to the lower grades to help them increase their awareness and safety as well. You will need to use all of the tools we have learned throughout this unit to encourage others!

Here is the plan for this project:

1. I will randomly divide you up into groups of 6-10. Each group will be responsible for creating 4 slides (or pages if you choose the non-digital option) that promote digital citizenship by highlighting one of the three categories we will explore. You are able to use any format or focus you would like as long as it clearly explains and genuinely promotes your topic.
2. Within your group EVERY person must be an active participant. You will need 3-4 creative content developers, 3-4 presenters and 1-2 question takers.
3. Each group will present their slides to our class. After all of our presentations, the slides will be combined and the presenters from each group will join forces and go to each classroom in the 6th and 7th grades to teach the younger students about digital citizenship.

PART 1: Introduce Concept

You may have heard of the term "digital citizenship". This term has to do with our behavior when we are online. Let's watch a video to better understand this concept:

https://www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/what-is-digital-citizenship
The video helps to break down the three areas we will focus on:

● Plagiarism and Honest Research: As we get older, we are asked to include research into our papers more and more. However, it is extremely important to do so in an honest manner. Plagiarism is a serious offense and can result not only in a failing grade, but in legal problems and expulsion from school as we get older! Help younger students understand this topic and provide some useful tools to avoid plagiarism.

● Media Use and Moderation: So much of what we do involves the media, and much of our communication now involves a variety of social media as well. However, it is very easy to find ourselves addicted to social media. Explore this concept and help students understand warning signs of addiction and how to establish goals around moderation and use.

- Identity Theft and Scams: At this point in your life, you have probably been online for years. You have an email (which is probably connected to your school), you have a social media account, you text, etc. All of these avenues lend themselves to identity theft and scams. Explore this concept and identify red flags students can look out for when trying to determine if someone really is who they say they are or if it is a scam. What are some best practices teens can implement to help them avoid this problem?

If possible, allow your normally scheduled RAK time for working on this project in class. Fifteen minutes each day (or even a few days this week) can help you guide students and allow the conversation to naturally unfold.

Part 2: Presentation Development

Now that we have a deeper understanding about the three hot topics connected to digital citizenship, we need to help others understand this as well. Each group will receive one topic connected to digital citizenship: Plagiarism and Honest Research, Media Use and Moderation, and Identity Theft and Scams. Your goal is to explain your topic through both words and pictures so that students are able to better understand digital citizenship and make healthy choices online moving forward. Remember, both words and pictures are necessary components of your slides. In addition, your presenter will be responsible for explaining your slides and how they connect to your assigned topic. All the slides will be combined to create one full length digital citizenship presentation with multiple presenters responsible for their specific group's portion of the topic.

Step 1:

Assign the three topics to your groups. You will only need one group per topic.

Step 2:

Provide time for the groups to complete their research on the assigned topic. This can be done both in class and on their own time.

Step 3:

Allow time for slide creations. Combine all 12 slides together to create one streamlined presentation. Make sure you give each group 5-7 minutes to present their portion of the slides. Encourage the class to ask questions after each portion of the presentation. Question takers are responsible for understanding the content enough to answer questions from the audience!

Step 4:

Work with the lower grades to schedule times to share your digital citizenship presentation! Presenters and question takers from each group are responsible for traveling to the other classes as scheduled.

NOTE: If you cannot or do not want to use PowerPoint or another computer based software for this project, you can simply have each group complete their portion using a paper based option, creating a physical guide rather than an electronic one.