

Digital Citizenship and Online Safety

How to use: Print first for the main practice. Then use the device to repeat activities and save progress.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1 Distinguish safe online behavior from risky online behavior
- 2 Match common online situations to the best response
- 3 Protect personal information using strong passwords and tight privacy settings
- 4 Apply respectful, responsible habits in messages, posts and group chats

MINI LESSON

A digital citizen uses technology safely, respectfully, and responsibly. In Grade 6 you spend more time online — for school, for friendships, and for fun. The choices you make leave a lasting digital footprint, and they shape both your reputation and the people around you.

Four Pillars of Online Safety

1. Privacy — keep your profile, posts, and location locked down by default.
2. Passwords — long, unique, and never shared, not even with close friends.
3. Permissions — choose carefully which apps can see your photos, contacts, or location.
4. People — only chat, share, and play with people you actually know and trust.

Your Digital Footprint

Every post, message, and search adds to a trail you cannot fully erase. Before you click share, ask: would I be okay if my parents, my teacher, and a future employer all saw this? If the answer is no, do not post it.

- Photos that show your face, your school, or your home.
- Comments that put down a person, a group, or a culture.
- Locations and times — when you post that you are at the mall, you are also posting that you are not at home.
- Screenshots of private chats — sharing them without permission is still a betrayal of trust.

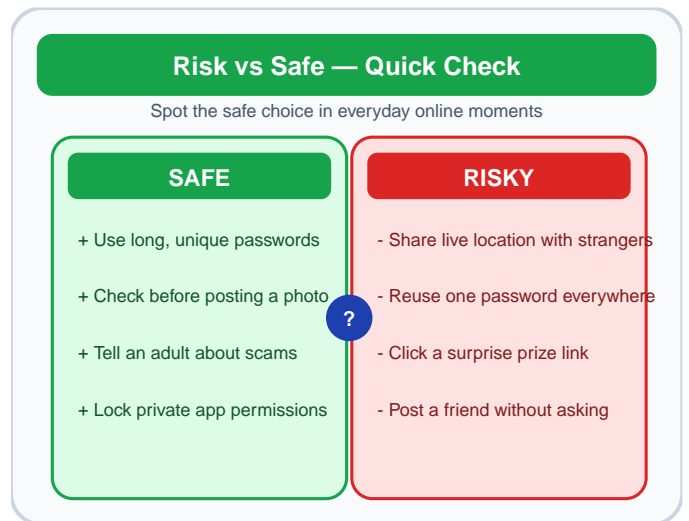
Spot a Scam in Five Seconds

- Urgency — a message demands you act right now or you lose something.
- Surprise reward — a prize, gift card, or free game you never entered to win.
- Strange link — the URL is a jumble of letters or hides the real destination.
- Stranger pressure — someone you do not know asks for personal info or a private photo.
- Secret request — they tell you to keep the conversation hidden from your parents.

! Tip: a strong password is a passphrase — four random words such as river-otter-banana-clock are far harder to crack than a short password with symbols, and much easier for you to remember.

VOCABULARY

- digital citizenship** Using technology safely, respectfully, and responsibly.
- digital footprint** The trail of data you leave behind from posts, messages, and searches.
- phishing** A trick message that tries to steal your password or personal info.
- permissions** The access an app or site asks for — camera, location, contacts, photos.
- cyberbullying** Using technology to hurt, threaten, or embarrass another person.
- ally** A person who stands up for someone being treated unfairly.



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GUIDED PRACTICE — WRITE YOUR RESPONSE

Read the prompt and use at least 5 of the vocabulary words below. Write at least 30 words.

Prompt

Write 3-4 sentences explaining what you have learned. Use at least 5 of the vocabulary words below.

VOCABULARY — USE AT LEAST 5

safe · kind · smart · password · private · permission · phishing · stranger · scam

Write at least 30 words.

EXERCISES — SORT & MATCH

Sort each habit into Safe behavior or Risky behavior.

SENTENCES TO SORT

1. Use a passphrase made of four random words
2. Turn on two-step verification
3. Review app permissions every month
4. Ask before posting a photo of a friend
5. Report cyberbullying to a trusted adult
6. Pause before sending an angry reply
7. Share live location publicly on a post
8. Reuse the same password on five sites
9. Click a surprise gift-card link in DMs
10. Accept a friend request from a stranger
11. Post a screenshot of a private chat
12. Keep a creepy message a secret from parents

Write the number of each sentence in the correct bucket below.

Safe behavior

Risky behavior

"Flip the page upside down to see the answer key"

Safe behavior: Use a passphrase made of four random words, Turn on two-step verification, Review app permissions every month, Ask before posting a photo of a friend, Report cyberbullying to a trusted adult, Pause before sending an angry reply, Share live location publicly on a post, Reuse the same password on five sites, Click a surprise gift-card link in DMs, Accept a friend request from a stranger, Post a screenshot of a private chat, Keep a creepy message a secret from parents

EXERCISES — MATCH THE PAIRS

Match each online situation to the best response.

1. A login email warns your account will close in 1 hour unless you click a link
2. A stranger DMs and asks for your school name and a selfie
3. A group chat starts mocking a classmate who left
4. You used a friend's laptop to log into your school account

- A. Sign out of every app before you hand the laptop back
- B. Deny everything you do not need and check with a parent
- C. Wait ten minutes, reread it, and edit or delete before sending

5. A new game asks for your camera, contacts, and location

6. You are about to post a comment while you are angry

D. Do not click — open the app yourself and check from there

E. Do not reply, block the account, and tell an adult

F. Speak up kindly, screenshot, and report the bullying

Write the matching letter next to each number (e.g. 1-B, 2-A, 3-C...).

1 — _____ 2 — _____ 3 — _____ 4 — _____ 5 — _____ 6 — _____

“Flip the page upside down to see the answer key “

1-D 2-E 3-F 4-A 5-B 6-C

PRACTICE — DICTATION / TYPING

Without looking, name the four pillars of online safety and one habit for each.

List the four pillars of online safety (privacy, passwords, permissions, people) and give one habit that supports each.

Pillars: privacy, passwords, permissions, people. Each pillar has a habit that protects you online.

“Flip the page upside down to see the answer key “

privacy / password / permission / people / private / adult / share / two-step

EXERCISES — MULTIPLE CHOICE

Circle the best answer.

1. Digital citizenship is best described as...

- Owning the newest phone in your class
- Using technology safely, respectfully, and responsibly
- Posting on social media at least once a day

2. Which password habit is the strongest?

- A short word plus your birth year
- A four-word passphrase with two-step verification on
- One favorite password reused on every site

3. A pop-up says "Your account is locked — click here to unlock now". You should...

- Click the link to fix it before it gets worse
- Close the pop-up and log in directly through the real app
- Forward it to a friend so they can check it for you

4. Your digital footprint is...

- A picture of your shoe in your camera roll
- The trail of posts, messages, and searches you leave behind online
- A login screen on a school computer

5. A new app asks for your location, microphone, contacts, and camera. The smart move is to...

- Tap allow on every prompt so the app works fastest
- Deny anything the app does not actually need and ask a parent
- Allow them all, then turn them off later if you remember

6. A stranger online asks you to keep your conversations a secret from your parents. You should...

- Agree as long as they seem nice
- Stop replying, block the account, and tell a trusted adult right away
- Delete the chat history so nobody sees it

7. Your group chat starts piling on a classmate who left the chat. Being a good ally means...

- Adding a laughing emoji so you do not get targeted next
- Saying it is not okay, screenshotting, and reporting it to an adult
- Leaving the chat silently and ignoring it

8. Before posting a photo that includes a friend, the responsible step is to...

- Post it — they will see it later anyway
- Ask the friend if they are okay with the photo being shared
- Crop their face out so it looks anonymous

"Flip the page upside down to see the answer key"

1. b 2. b 3. b 4. b 5. b 6. b 7. b 8. b

ASSESSMENT

PARENT / TEACHER CHECKLIST

- Can describe the four pillars of online safety: privacy, passwords, permissions, people
- Can list at least three pieces of personal information to keep private
- Can name three warning signs of a phishing or scam message
- Can sort everyday online actions into safe versus risky categories
- Can explain why telling a trusted adult is the right first step when something feels wrong