Lesson 4: Smart Choices

Grade: 6

CA HEC Standards:
- 4.1.M: Demonstrate how to communicate directly, respectfully, and assertively regarding personal boundaries.
- 4.3.G: Demonstrate refusal skills to protect personal boundaries.
- 5.1.S: Use a decision-making process to determine a safe course of action in risky situations.

Protect Yourself Rules:
- Smart Choices
- Tell an Adult

Materials Needed:
- Video Lesson: “Smart Choices”
- Activity page: Profile Template
- Review page: Short Response

Outcomes:
This lesson gives students tools to protect their privacy and interact safely on the internet.

For students, being safe online means making Smart Choices regarding what information they give out, what sites they visit, who they interact with, and how they present themselves socially.

Students will evaluate strategies to maintain their privacy online and avoid potentially dangerous situations.

Students will also develop communication skills to protect their personal boundaries and demonstrate the ability to ask a trusted adult for help if someone they encounter online makes them feel unsafe.
1. Student Introduction:
What do you use the internet for?
Do you ever think about how much personal information you give away when you're online?

This lesson is about making Smart Choices to protect privacy online. When we talk about the internet, we're also talking about games that let you make profiles and talk to other players, whether in chat boxes, over head phones, or on message boards.

Because anyone in the world can use the internet, we have to protect ourselves from people who can use our personal information to steal our identities or find out where we live.

In the vast majority of online crimes against minors, the offender uses the victim's social networking sites to get information about them.

That's why we follow the Smart Choices Protect Yourself Rule. By being mindful of what we say and post, we have the power to protect our privacy and our safety online.

2. Video Lessons:
- Play the video lesson "Smart Choices"

3. Discussion:
- Safe Decisions

4. Activity:
- Refusal Skills

5. Review:
- Short Response
CA HEC Standards:
• 4.1.M: Demonstrate how to communicate directly, respectfully, and assertively regarding personal boundaries
• 5.1.S: Use a decision-making process to determine a safe course of action in risky situations.

SAFE DECISIONS

Now that the class has watched the video, it's time to talk about the lesson in-depth. Use the following suggested topics to open up a discussion about the lesson. Call on students to contribute or invite comments from volunteers.

• What are some of the Smart Choices Maya talked about in the video? Can you think of any more ways to protect yourself online?

• What is cyberbullying? Have you ever encountered cyberbullying online? Cyberbullying is just as dangerous as bullying in real life, because our online personas are an extension of ourselves. Threats or mistreatment over the internet have to be reported to adults.

• Imagine that someone in a game chat or forum asks you where you live, or what school you go to. What can you tell them to not give away your real personal information?

• Can we ever really know the real person we're talking to online? What do we see or hear when we talk to people online? (ex., pictures, voice, profile information, etc.). How can these things be tricked or made false?

• What are some things that we know we should never give away or post online? This is what we should be aware of in our decision-making process. If a person or website asks us to give away this information, they are not safe.
ONLINE PROFILE

4.3.G: Demonstrate refusal skills to protect personal boundaries.

This activity will allow students to evaluate what information is appropriate or "safe" to put online when creating a profile.

Materials Needed:

- Profile Template Page
- Paper/writing utensils

Preparation:

- Pass out copies of the Profile Template Page to each student.

Steps to Success:

1. Instruct students to fill in all the information they can for their profiles. They should draw a profile picture in the photo square that they think is appropriate.

2. Once all students have finished creating their profiles, they should trade with a classmate and circle what information could potentially make them vulnerable to dangerous situations.

3. Call on volunteers to talk about which information they circled.

4. Review with students methods for keeping information private, such as using a username that doesn't include their real name.

5. Review when it is necessary to contact an adult if approached by a stranger online.
**Build Your Profile!**

Fill out this profile template as though you were building an actual social media profile. Write as much information as you would be comfortable putting online, and sketch a profile picture that you might use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Username:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone Number:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security #:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pet's names:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favorite food:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share my current location:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Privacy Settings:**

- Anyone can see my profile
- Only people I friend can see my profile
- Anyone can see my profile, but it's just my name and photo that are visible.
SHORT RESPONSE PAGE

1. What would make you feel unsafe while using the internet?

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2. What pieces of personal information should you never post online?

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3. How can you assert your personal boundaries online?

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