Middle School Activity Sheets

Use these middle school activity sheets to foster discussion.

Looking After Myself

Each list item corresponds with an entry in your digital citizenship guidelines. Review the guideline and accompanying scenario, and answer the question.

1. *I will choose online names that are suitable and respectful.*

   Your friends are all using a new social media site and want you to join. The site only shows the user's profile name. You must create a name that is based on your actual name, but is incomplete enough to protect your identity. **What name would you use and why?**

2. *I will only invite people I actually know in the physical world to be my friends in the online world.*

   You are on a new social media site, and you receive a friendship request from a person you don't know. The profile says this person is the same age as you and has a very good-looking profile picture. **Should you accept the person's request? Why did you make your decision?**

3. *I will only visit sites that are appropriate, and I will respect the rules that websites have about age. Some sites are only for adults. If I don't feel comfortable showing the website to my parents or grandparents, then it is inappropriate.*

   One of your friends has joined an adult dating site. The site has an age restriction of eighteen years old, and your friend lied about his birthdate to join the site. Your friend received a date invitation from a member of the dating site. **What advice would you give to your friend?**

4. *I will set my privacy settings so only the people I know can see me or my personal information.*

   One of your classmates is making jokes about your last holiday. You haven't ever spoken to her about it, and you think she might have been looking at your social media profile and pictures. You are not friends with her, but your privacy settings are set at Friends of Friends. **What does the privacy setting Friends of Friends mean, and is this the best setting for you to use?**

5. *I will only put information online that is appropriate and post only pictures that are suitable. Not everyone seeing my profile or pictures will be friendly.*

   One of your friends posted a very revealing picture of himself, wearing only his underwear. He had lots of likes and comments. He is encouraging you to put up similar pictures. **What should you do? What advice should you give to your friend?**

6. *I will always report anything that happens online that makes me feel uncomfortable or unhappy.*

   A slightly older person has been chatting with you online. She said she is interested in the same activities, sports, and hobbies as you. She has given you good advice in the past, but recently she is asking you if you are alone and in your bedroom. She also asked if you could meet up somewhere. **What should you do?**

7. *I will talk to trusted adults, like my parents and teachers, about my online experiences. This includes both the good and the bad experiences.*

   One of the people in your friendship group posted pictures of you and made some funny comments. He didn't ask if he could post your pictures, and some of your other friends are adding replies and likes. The comments use humor, but are quite personal and hurtful. You want this to stop, but you are scared that you might lose friends. **Whom should you talk to and why?**

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Looking After Others

Each list item corresponds with an entry in your digital citizenship guidelines. Review the guideline and accompanying scenario, and answer the question.

1. *I will show I care by not flaming (sending hurtful or inflammatory messages) other people, or forwarding messages that are unkind or inappropriate.*

   You have been included in an email list which sends around funny jokes, memes, and images. At first, the jokes were quite funny, but recently they have been racist and degrading. Some of the images have been pornographic. You used to send them on to your friends and still have all of them in your school email account. **What should you do?**

2. *I will not get involved in conversations that are unkind, mean, or bullying.*

   A group of your classmates is standing in a circle looking at pictures on a phone. One of them says, "Send them to me! Send them!" and laughs. The rest of the group agrees and asks for them to be sent to everyone. The pictures are partly undressed selfies of one of the people in your grade. **What should you do?**

3. *I will report any conversations I see that are unkind, mean, or bullying. I can imagine if the things being written were about me. If I find them offensive, then they are inappropriate.*

   One of the students in your class has been annoying. She thinks she is funny and popular. One of your friends posted some very nasty things about her on his social media profile. Your friend wants you to like or reply to his post. **What should you do? Ignore it, post a comment, or report it?**

4. *I will show my respect for others by avoiding websites that are disrespectful because they show people behaving inappropriately or illegally—or are racist, bigoted, or unkind. If I visit one by accident, I will close it and tell my teacher or an adult.*

   You are seated in the middle of the room in one of your classes at school. The class is boring, and you are surfing the Internet. You go to a website, and there are pop-ups that contain pornographic images and link to pornographic websites and live chatrooms. **What should you do?**

5. *I will show respect for others' privacy by not trying to get into their online spaces without invitation, and by not stalking them or copying their pictures.*

   You really like one of the students in your grade level. She posts lots of pictures and videos on her social media profile. She has not set the privacy settings to allow only friends to see the pictures. You could send a friendship request, but she might reject it or block you, or you could continue to anonymously visit her profile. **What should you do?**

Looking After Property

Each list item corresponds with an entry in your digital citizenship guidelines. Review the guideline and accompanying scenario, and answer the question.

1. *I will not steal other people's property. It's easy to download music, games, and movies, but piracy (downloading media that I have not bought) is just the name given to stealing online.*

   The latest album by your favorite artist comes out on iTunes. The album is a new release and is at the premium price, which you cannot afford. Only the complete album is available for purchase and not the individual songs. You know you can find copies of the music online. **Do you search for and download the music?**

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2. *I will not share with other people the music, movies, games, and other software that I own.*

   You have a friend come over to your place. You muck around playing music on your MP3 player. Your friend asks you for a copy of your music collection. **Do you give it to him?**

3. *I will check that the information I use is correct. Anyone can say anything on the web, so I need to use reliable websites to check that my research is correct. When in doubt, I will ask my teacher or parents.*

   It's Thursday evening, and your assignment is due at 8:30 Friday morning. You have only framed out the work. You're panicking and talk to one of your friends. She said you can download a similar assignment from a specific website, change a few words, and then send that in as your own. **Why shouldn't you do this?**

4. *I will look after other people's websites, acting appropriately when visiting them, not making changes or vandalizing them, and reporting any damage that I find.*

   You have been given someone else's serial number, which is used as the registration key for the latest game. The game producer is a huge multinational that makes vast profits each year. The game is free to download but requires the registration key, which you are meant to purchase to play beyond the basic game. **Do you use the key? Why or why not?**

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