

Teacher Instructions

Cyber Safety Fair – The Dark Side

Title: The Dark Side of the Net

Grade Focus: 7-8-9-10

Subject: English Language Arts

Integration Activity: Imaging or PowerPoint

Recommended Time to Completion: 8-10 weeks (one class per week)

INTRODUCTION

In this lesson, students are required to research the topic and produce a three –fold poster or a PowerPoint Slide Show for a Cyber Safety Fair. The fair will be like a trade show. Each group will have a table at the show and will display their information on either the poster or where there is sufficient equipment and power, using PowerPoint. Students should also prepare a single page handout with a summary of their information. This lesson can also be used independently of the Cyber Safety Fair concept. The lessons in the Cyber Safety Fair group can be used to assemble a very informative and interesting session for students, parents and/or the community.

PREREQUISITE EXPERIENCE: This lesson assumes the student has a basic knowledge and skills associated with research using the Internet. In addition, students will review the materials dealing with digital imaging and PowerPoint found at www.NortelLearnIT.org.

TEACHER PREP TIME: minimal (about 1 hour)

If you have not worked with image editing software or PowerPoint, you will want to become more comfortable with these technologies. Review the ***Imaging and PowerPoint*** training videos available from www.NortelLearnIT.org. Students can refer to these same videos when working through their project as needed.

Teachers should carefully review the web sites in the Explore Section to become familiar with the topic and to check for appropriateness of materials for their students. Students should be encouraged to report any inappropriate materials they encounter.

PROJECT: Students will submit their individual Dark Side posters or PowerPoint projects and will participate in the Cyber Safety Fair.

ASSESSMENT / GRADING: An evaluation Rubric has been provided.

TIME MANAGEMENT TIP: Students should complete the research and poster/PowerPoint in groups.

Engage

"He advertised himself on MySpace.com as a '... Toronto boy" who is a "sweet person" and easy to talk to, but police allege "Schnail" was an online sexual predator who traded child porn and convinced a 13-year-old small-town Ontario girl to perform sex acts on her web cam.
(Toronto Star) – Toronto Canada

"Almost one-third of the 50 favorite Web sites listed by kids incorporate material that is violent (28 percent) or highly sexualized (32 per cent). Kids in Grades 8 and 9 include these sites in their list of favorites most frequently." (Media Awareness Network)

The papers are full of headlines of kids being lured by online predators and kids forced or bribed to participate in indecent acts online. We have seen a dramatic increase in online child pornography, online hate crimes, and violent and sexual content on video websites.

Your assignment is to teach others about the dangers of the Dark Side of the Net. You will provide an overview of the topic and create a three-fold poster or PowerPoint presentation to display your information to the class and at the Cyber Safety Fair. Each group will have a table at the fair to display their materials. You need to produce a one page brochure or pamphlet that summarizes your information. As you work through the web sites below, record your findings using a word processor. Be sure to report any inappropriate content to your teacher. You might want to find out what types of activities are most likely to expose you to the problems (i.e. chat, Messaging, Peer 2 Peer file sharing, email etc.)

These are topic areas to investigate:

Internet Predators – How do they find their victims? Who are their victims? How can you avoid these creeps? What should you do if you are approached? Can you find a list of 10 safety tips for kids and parents?

Internet Porn – How can you avoid unwanted materials? Is there a way to report sites that have pornographic materials? What can parents do? What are blocking programs and how do they work?

Online Hate – What is it? Who is victimized by it? How can it be avoided?

Explore

Before you begin, review the Explain section to provide additional focus to your work. Your goal is inform others about this very important topic. Your information needs to be complete and accurate. As you research this topic there is a chance that you might run across an inappropriate site or inappropriate material. You should report it to your teacher or parent immediately.

Highly recommended as a starting point for you. Nortel LearniT: **Online Safety** and **Digital Ethics** <http://www.NortelLearniT.org>

Good information – Divided into areas for kids, teens, parents etc.
<http://www.msn.staysafeonline.com/>

Information on every topic in the Cyber Safety Fair topics – Very good for this lesson -
<http://www.protectkids.com/dangers/stats.htm>

Good section of tips for kids and parents
<http://www.atg.wa.gov/safetynet/consumers.shtml>

Pornography information
<http://www.bewebaware.ca/english/pornography.aspx#impact>

Guide for parents
<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguidee.htm>

All three sections are very good.
<http://tcs.cybertipline.com/knowthedangers.htm>

Online predators – what to do
<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/children/kidpred.msp>
<http://www.bewebaware.ca/english/OnlinePredators.aspx>

Internet Hate
http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/issues/online_hate/index.cfm

Interactive Game Exploring Online Hate
http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/games/allies_allies/

Peer 2 Peer File sharing problems
http://www.familysafemedia.com/peer-to-peer_pornography_-_ki.html

Explain

Before we plan out your poster or PowerPoint, let's think about the one page summary and what you have learned during your research. You may want to provide a general overview of the topic or some general information about the topic followed by specific details about one of the topic areas.

The information we would like everyone to know concerns three important topic threads. In this lesson we are concentrating on:

Internet Pornography
Online Predators
Online Hate

For each of the above, tell in your own words what you have learned about:

Internet Pornography

What is it? How common is it? Is it legal?

How can I protect myself against unwanted and inappropriate materials appearing on my computer?

What should I do if I discover Internet Porn or accidentally end up on a porn site?

What if someone offers me money or gifts to do bad things on the Internet or Web Cam?

Online Predators

What do we mean by online Predators? What types of things do they do?

How do they get kids to participate or meet them? How can I avoid them?

What should I do if someone online tries to get me to meet him or her or do something inappropriate?

Online Hate

What do we consider to be online hate? Give some examples.

Is it legal? How can I avoid it?

What should I do if I accidentally end up on a Hate website?

What if I am a victim of hate?

Can you put together a list of safety tips for each topic? You may want to consider the above topics in relationship to a particular type of Internet activity (i.e. email, video sites, surfing, messaging, peer to peer file sharing). Discuss it with your teacher first.

Elaborate

Poster: If you have chosen a poster for your display, remember that good displays have eye-catching materials that draw people closer. You should focus on making a few very important points with great graphics and images. Do not use up all of your poster space with long passages of text in very small fonts. Your brochure or pamphlet can provide all of those details. A typical three-fold poster has plenty of room to display information.

Take some time to organize your materials. Carefully select the position each one will hold on your poster. Remember, you only have one chance to make an impression to people walking by. They should want to come in for a closer where you give them the brochure.

Each brochure should contain an overview of the topic and the specifics of one of the sub-topics. You should also include some web sites they can go to for more information.

Remember to proof read your work and submit it to the teacher for assessment and copying.

Present your work at the Cyber Safety Fair or in class. Be prepared as a team to answer questions.

PowerPoint: Review the materials found at www.NortelLearnit.org dealing specifically with PowerPoint presentations.

Create a slide outline for your presentation. Remember that people will be walking by and your presentation must encourage them to come closer. Sound, colors and graphics are all good for that purpose. Carefully plan out each slide. Do not put lots of small text on your slides. People will be watching it in groups standing around so the materials must “jump out” at them. Hopefully your school will have a projector or larger screens.

You must also have a one page pamphlet or brochure to hand out. Remember to proof read your work and submit it to the teacher for assessment and copying.

Present your work at the Cyber Safety Fair or in class. Be prepared as a team to answer questions.

Evaluate

Evaluation Rubric

Criteria	Unsatisfactory	Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Exemplary
Research	Limited research, from limited sources	Somewhat well researched from somewhat varied sources.	Well researched, from various sources	Thorough research from varied sources presenting different points of view
Storyboard / planning	Limited planning evident	Some planning evident	Planning evident	Thorough planning evident
Content/Poster Brochure	Lacks detail	Some detail	Good detail	Excellent detail
Technology Use to Demonstrate Understanding	Technology use with little purpose	Technology use with some purpose	Technology use with purpose	Intuitive technology use with specific purpose
Overall Final Project	Inconsistent and inappropriate aesthetics and technical functionality	Somewhat consistent and appropriate aesthetics and technical functionality	Consistent and appropriate aesthetics and technical functionality	Consistent, creative and appropriate aesthetics and technical functionality

Self-evaluation: What did you learn about the Dark Side of the Net? How will your work change what you do when you are online? How did you feel about your contribution to the Cyber Safety Fair? What would you do differently next time? What were some of the comments at your booth?

Group evaluation: Evaluate the contribution of your team members to this project. You might want to agree on questions that could be evaluated on a scale of 5. You should look at the tasks assigned to each person and how well they completed them. You should look at how each of you cooperated and how the individuals in the group contributed at the actual Cyber Safety Fair.

Extend

Share, share share! You are the computer experts. You should share this information with friends and family members. Make sure that they understand the dangers of the Dark Side of the Net. You want to help make sure that nobody you know falls victim to this terrible crime.

Perhaps you could suggest moving your Cyber Safety Fair to the public library or a local mall for a day. Now that you have all of the materials it would be a shame to use them only once. There are many kids and parents that are or could be affected by The Dark Side of the Net.

If you are victim of stalking, being propositioned, or exposed to inappropriate materials, be sure to take the steps you have learned to deal with the problem. You must tell a parent or teacher about this problem.

You might want to conduct some original research in your school. Do a study in your and see if you are typical of some of the statistics. How often have your friends been contacted by a predator? Have they ever spent time looking at online pornography. Have any of your friends participated in chats or postings on hate sites? Original research is always interesting and informative.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, continue to visit the sites you have researched and keep your knowledge of this topic up to date. You are in the process of becoming a lifelong learner. This type of knowledge changes rapidly and it is important that you keep up.

