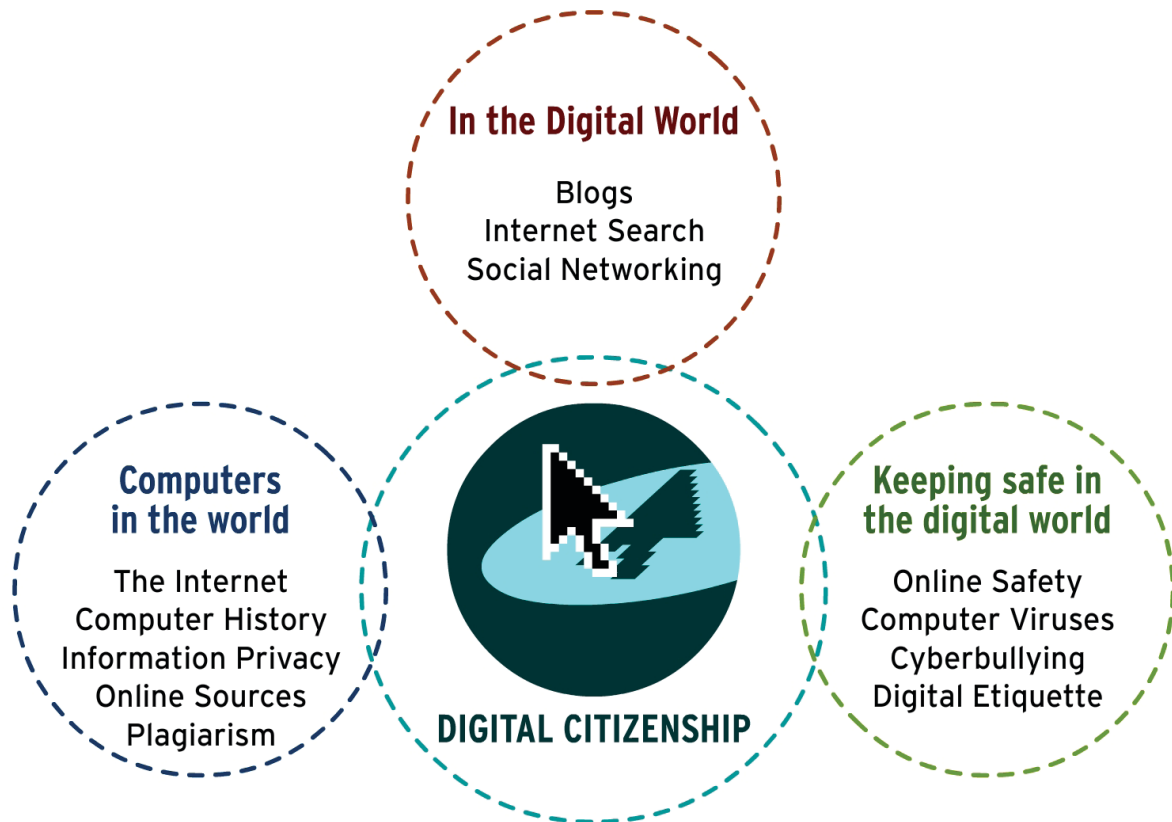
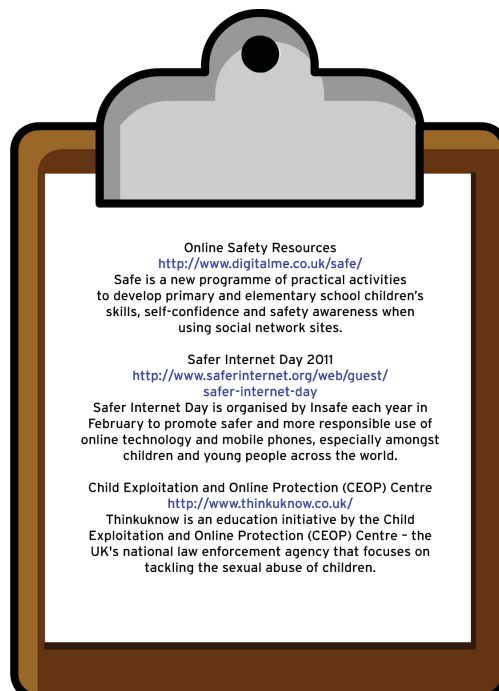


Practical tips and ideas for using BrainPoP videos and resources in your classroom



Where do the movies fit into my topic and the curriculum?

Other useful websites and resources to support this topic



Activities

School-based tasks

Building yourself as a citizen in the digital world takes time to develop safely, so that students create an understanding of staying safe online, having fun, as well as being able to deal with and report what happens if they come across an unpleasant experience on the web. The work of Digital Citizenship is developed through talk, circle times and involving children in taking a proactive attitude. Strong links can be associated with Safer Internet Day in February and with Anti-bullying week in the Autumn term.

There are many different aspects to Digital Citizenship: the use of the internet, text messaging, social networking, Instant Messaging, Learning Platform engagement and the range of different Web 2.0 technologies where a user can build a profile and then collaborate with people who share common interests.

Possible discussion topics on Digital Citizenship

Talk about social networking with the children. The more they are exposed online risks the more they will be informed about how to act. Possible debates could be:

- Why is it necessary for social networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace to have an age limit?
- What is it about social networking that people like? Can you come up with some benefits of social networking?
- Talk about the dangers of social networking. How many different dangers are there or is the danger of people the biggest threat?
- Why do some people bully people online?
- Do the positives of using social networks outweigh the negatives?
- What do you need in order to build a social network? Good content? Similar interests? People? Which are more important?
- What type of information do you share with friends already? BBpin codes? Facebook username? Email addresses?
- Which can do more harm in the digital world if you have it? An email address, phone number or a person's facebook details?
- What are the different types of media which you can post and others could post about you?

Similarities and differences between different sites

Talk about the differences between the different sites to build understanding of the different functions of different sites and why one might be preferable over another. For example:

MySpace is for musicians (<http://uk.myspace.com/>)

Facebook is for connecting other people (www.facebook.com)

Ning is building your own social network (<http://www.ning.com/>)

Bebo is for younger people to join together (<http://www.bebo.com/>)

Club Penguin is for school-aged children (<http://www.clubpenguin.com/>)

Merchandising a new band

Ask the students to design the marketing for a new pop band or solo artist who will be launching in the music industry. Tell the students that not only will they need to design the more traditional marketing such as posters and leaflets but the group/artist would also like them to harness the potential of social media and/or the Internet.

Discuss with the students what they believe that may look like.

- What are the main aims when advertising?
- Would a website be better than using social media?
- Why would a group advertise on MySpace?
- Explore why the use of playing your own tracks, people being able to comment on performances or new singles released might be more appealing.

Creating a profile picture

Explore with the children why some people use a cartoon image or avatar of themselves instead of a real picture.

- When would it be appropriate to use a photograph?
- Why would you want to? Use examples to support this discussion.

Celebrities, business people who use social networking for their work will often place their real picture in order to build more credibility. Ordinary people will also use their own photograph if they know all the people in their network. Discuss when an avatar should be used, i.e. to protect the identity of a person or when in school.

Text messaging

Ask the students to produce a help guide to text language for older people who are not so used to text language. Ask the students to first begin by brainstorming all the different short cuts of texting they know. For example, gr8 = great, l8tr = later, c u = see you. Ask the students to explain what each term means. Ask them to organise the language into alphabetical order and write a help guide to texting at the back.

Ask the children to take a small section of a favourite book or poem and write it with a partner in text speak.

Digital Citizen MOT

Ask the students to prepare a poster as a reminder checklist for when they are online and using technology. Every half-term they could be checked and either stamped or receive a sticker for managing to:

- Maintain a healthy profile within social networking sites they belong to
- Have anti-virus software to protect their computer
- Have re-read the school's Acceptable Use Policy

Building a profile

As a whole class activity, watch the "Social Networking" and "Information Privacy" movies and then look at a profile page from a social network. Explain to the children that different sites ask for different pieces of information but how much information should you give? Explain to the children that some people include too much detail. Which parts would you leave out?

Present the same profile information to the students. Ask them to decide and then highlight which information they would leave out if their teachers were reading that profile. What about their parents? their friends? their employer? Look at the different profiles and discuss, as a class, which pieces of information they left out and why.

Now ask the children to look at each of the profiles and make a final, safe 'master' profile of an amalgamation between the three (parents, friends, employer).

Home task

Dear Parent/Carer,

In school, the students have been learning about how to become digital citizens. They have been learning about the dangers as well as the benefits of the digital world such as social networking, (Facebook, Bebo, Club Penguin, YouTube, MySpace), email, texting, Instant Messaging.

At home, we would like your child to:

- 1) Create a poster with all the different ways and pieces of technology they use in their daily life at home, e.g. iPad, Wii, Xbox, PS3, Computer, Sky+, Freeview, email, texting, iPod, Mobile, Radio.
- 2) Write down all the advantages and personal benefits to using each piece of technology.
- 3) Write down in a circle the approximate amount of time in a week they use each piece of technology.
- 4) Ask the adults (parents, grandparents, extended family) to tell you how much they use each piece of technology over the week and add this to your poster.
- 5) If there are any differences in the amount of time, why is that? For example, grandma may not be an avid user of a games console because it is only used for when the grandchildren are visiting.

Thank you for your support with our topic.



BLOGS



COMPUTER HISTORY



COMPUTER VIRUSES



CYBERBULLYING



DIGITAL ETIQUETTE



EMAIL AND IM



INFORMATION PRIVACY



INTERNET



INTERNET SEARCH



ONLINE SAFETY



ONLINE SOURCES



PLAGIARISM



SOCIAL NETWORKING