Unit: Internet Safety

Topic: Online Safety Reminders for Grade 8

Rationale: The Internet is a powerful and informative resource, but it can also be dangerous for students.

Activity: “Online Safety”

Duration: Thursday, October 30 during Advisory for Grade 8 only

Procedure:
1. Announce that today students will be learning about cyberethics.
2. Ask students to watch the 3 minute video at: http://safely.yahoo.com/?q=node/17 on their laptops using their earbuds.
3. After students watch the video, ask questions to check for understanding:
   - What are the five rules for online safety? Please explain each.
     a. Keep your identity a secret. (Don’t disclose personal information until you check with your parents [or a teacher] about it.)
     b. Don’t talk to strangers. (Don’t respond to emails from people you don’t recognize. Check with parents before you enter a chat room or message board.
     c. Protect your passwords. (Keep your passwords in a safe place and don’t reveal them to anyone.)
     d. Tell somebody. (If you ever receive an email that is mean or makes you feel uncomfortable, tell your teacher or parent right away.
     e. Be nice. (Be nice to others online and respect their feelings and beliefs.)
   - “Online actions have real life consequences.” What do you think this means?
   - Can you think of any personal instances where your actions online affected you off-line? What about anyone you know?
4. Students will now role-play. Students are all advertising executives just hired to do an online safety campaign for elementary school students in grades 3-5. They need to take the five rules outlined in the video (and listed above) and create an acronym that would make it easy for these elementary school students to remember. Students may work individually, with a partner, or with a small group to develop their acronym.
5. Acronyms must be shared before the end of advisory.