**Digital Citizenship Lesson Plan**

**Password Please**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **General Topic (as defined in the Digital Literacy Framework)** | **DB5** |
| Digital Citizenshipb) Privacy and Security |
| **Applicable Grade Range** |
| 3-5 |
| **Outcome(s) to be Addressed** |
| The student knows how to create secure passwords in order to protect their private information and accounts online. |
| **Importance / Significance of Lesson** |
| Once students are using websites that will save and track their progress, they need to understand the importance of password safety. A password will protect their account from being accessed by anyone else. This lesson will provide some tips for creating strong passwords that kids can remember. |
| **Duration** |
| 30 – 40 minutes  |
| **Overview** |
| Students will identify the types of websites that require passwords and those that don’t and learn tips for creating their own passwords and for keeping them safe.Please Note: student accounts for Xtramath will need to be set up prior to implementing this lesson. |
| **Required Resources** |
| Computer hooked up to a projectorClass set of laptops/access to the computer labClass set of iPads/iPodsSet of class accounts for Xtramath.comCopies of attached worksheets |
| **Lesson Plan and Extension Activities** |
| Using a computer hooked up to a projector, take students to two sites, one that requires an account to login and one that doesn’t. 1. <http://www.funbrain.com/> go to the Math Arcade and choose boy/girl, a skill level and a player piece. Play one or two games with the class and then go out of the site. Go back to <http://www.funbrain.com/> and start again without using the password they gave you at the end of the game. Note to students that you had to start all over again at the first game. However, if you used the password given – you could start where you left off (the website tracks the IP address with the password). Note that some websites require an account in order for you to track your progress or maintain an account.
2. <https://xtramath.org/> This is a great website where kids can practice their basic math skills for free. Note that when students log in they will do some practice work, however, the next time they log in, their previous practice work is checked as being completed and they start at the next level. This website tracks student progress so they don’t have to repeat the same level over and over again in order to get to where they left off. (teachers can use a student sample account to show students on the projector how this works, or let them practice in their own accounts).

Often times for school, students will have accounts created for them and will have passwords given to them. However, they need to be aware of some safety practices around creating passwords in order to ensure their information is protected online.Have students work in pairs and have them each search three password safety tips. Many groups will come up with similar tips, however a number of different tips should be brought up. Discuss each one and emphasize the importance of having safe passwords. Some reasons to protect passwords:* To protect personal information contained in your accounts
* To stop others using accounts to send messages or post comments while pretending to be you
* To stop others from guessing at passwords for other sites

Some safety tips when creating passwords:* Don’t use your name, your pet’s name or a simple string of numbers or letters that would be easy for someone to guess
* Try to use numbers or capital letters as part of the password to make it harder for others to copy
* If you like to use a similar password for multiple sites, try the same ending with different letters to start based on the website name (for example, if you want to use Mycat392 as a password because it’s easy to remember, if you sign up for Facebook your password could be fbMycat392, for Twitter it could be twMycat392)
* Make up a sentence that you will remember and use the first letter of each word as a password (for example: My Grade 1 Teacher Was Mrs. Smith = mg1twms)
* Don’t tell anyone your passwords, keep them secret!
* Change your passwords often – the more they use them, the more chance that someone will be able to figure them out.

Password sort: Photocopy the attached list of passwords for each group and have them sort passwords into two categories: ‘strong’ and ‘weak’. Lead the class in a master sort on the board and as you sort, discuss where each password belongs and why. |
| **Adaptations** |
| Younger kids will have simpler passwords and may have trouble remembering them. As students get older they will need skills for creating more complex passwords.Older students will likely understand the need to have passwords to protect their information; however the tips to build stronger passwords will apply. |
| **Additional Resources**  |
| <http://www.safekids.com/tips-for-strong-secure-passwords/> <https://www.microsoft.com/security/pc-security/password-checker.aspx> <http://scrapsofmygeeklife.com/geek-stuff/online-password-safety-tips-kids/>  |
| **Cross-curricular Outcomes Also Addressed** |
| Health and Career Prep – personal safety |

 ~developed by Kristin Sward, 2014



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Password Sort

Cut out these passwords and sort them using the strong or weak headings

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Strong** | **Weak** | Hi! |
| 123456 | susie12 | S1u2s3i4e5 |
| Abc123 | Mfmiab1bn22 | R2d2rox |
| Xbox360 | %jbs32#1 | lmnop |
| Kitty35 | Cutekid123 | 99gto |
| 1ttri2aeyw% | BCgurl333 | R3d1r3ct |
| sleepy1 | CC123 | Doglove42 |
| Computer1 | jOhNnY123 | password |
| Sweetheart999 | #1tIbc!ms) | play |

Which passwords do you think would be easy to remember? Hard?