

Digital Citizenship Lesson Plan
Citing Sources

General Topic (as defined in the Digital Literacy Framework)	RA5
Research and Information a) Information Literacy	
Applicable Grade Range	
3-5	
Outcome(s) to be Addressed	
The student understands the importance of citing all sources when they do research and is able to write bibliographical citations for online sources.	
Importance / Significance of Lesson	
It is important that students understand that they cannot take credit for the work of others. Any materials that they use when doing research must be properly cited and included at the end of their work. Older students will develop an understanding of what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, however younger students still need to give credit to the sources they use to gather information.	
Duration	
30 mins	
Overview	
Teachers will lead a discussion on copyright issues and then provide students with information on why it is important to cite their resources as well as guide them in creating a proper bibliography.	
Required Resources	
Computer hooked up to a projector Class set of laptops/access to the computer lab OR class set of iPads/iPods Copies of the attached resource	

Lesson Plan and Extension Activities

Part 1 – Need to cite your sources:

Topics for class discussion:

- 1) Think of a story that you worked really hard to write. One that was creative, funny, or provided information on a topic that you knew a lot about.
- 2) Imagine how it would feel if someone else took your story and told people that they wrote it, not you. Would it make you happy?
- 3) Imagine how it would feel if that person sold your story and it was made into a book or movie that anyone could buy. Who do you think deserves the money from the sale? Whose name do you think should be on the cover of the book as the author?
- 4) Is it okay to copy someone else's work and call it our own?

When we do research and collect information from sources that are not our own, it is important that we give credit where credit is due. Making references to other materials or 'citing' our sources means that we don't take credit for knowledge or property that is not ours and also provides a way for anyone who reads our work to find those sources of information if they need to.

Things like books, newspaper articles, magazine articles and digital media (songs, movies, TV shows) are protected by copyright. That means that you can't use them in your work without permission from the owner.

Sometimes, like when you are writing a report or research paper, general permission is granted for use of the material as long as you provide a reference to the original work or author. This is a way to give credit where it is due, while allowing you to incorporate the information into your own work (by using a quote or summarizing the information found in the original work).

Part 2 – Citing

Younger students

Provide them with a copy of the template included below and have them use it to keep track of any resource that they use in their work. They can be required to simply make a list of books and online sources where they gathered information.

Older students

As students reach middle school they can start to use a citation website (listed below) to help them put their references into the proper format as required by their teacher. Ask them to enter information for each resource they use as they do their research and have them copy and paste the citations provided into their document. The list of references should be included at the end of their paper or project. Ensure that you provide them with the style of citation that you are wanting (MLA, APA, Chicago Manual, Oxford, Harvard, etc.) so that there is consistency in their work). <http://www.teachingcopyright.org/curriculum/hs> has a number of lessons and activities developed for middle/high school students around the issue of copyright.

Adaptations

The template provided below could be used by students of any age to help keep track of their sources as they use them.

Additional Resources

Websites to choose from:

<http://www.copyrightkids.org/>

<http://blue.sdp.sirsi.net/client/kidbib>

<http://www.eduplace.com/parents/resources/homework/reference/bibliography.html>

<http://elementary.oslis.org/cite-sources/mla-elementary-citation>

Citation websites:

<http://www.citationmachine.net/>

<http://www.easybib.com/>

<http://www.citefast.com/>

Cross-curricular Outcomes Also Addressed
Social Studies – research skills
Language Arts – attributing work, collecting and citing sources

~developed by Kristin Sward, 2014



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Date: _____

Name: _____

Project Title:

Make a list of all of the resources from which you got information for your project:

Books:

Title	Author	Publication date

Websites:

Title	URL	Date you found it

Magazine

Article Title	Author	Magazine Name	Volume Number, Page Numbers	Published Date

Newspaper Article

Article Title	Author	Newspaper Title	City	Page Numbers	Published Date