



Bring digital literacy education into your classroom.

Lesson plan: Cybercrime investigator

Grades: 4-6

Duration: 30 minutes

Overview:

In this engaging activity, students will play the role of a cybercrime investigator and are challenged to complete a crossword puzzle in order to learn the identity of the attacker.

Learning outcomes

Students will:

- Learn ways to stay safe online
- Practice their listening skills

Preparation and materials

- Prepare to show the following videos:
 - [Digital Safety Tips with The Next Step: Identity Theft](#)
 - [Backstage: Protecting Privacy Online](#)
 - [Digital Safety Tips with The Next Step: Passwords](#)
- Print or prepare access to digital copies of the worksheet (one per student)

Procedure

After each student receives a copy of the worksheet, give students one to two minutes to read through the instructions. Then, reinforce to students that the clues to the crosswords are hidden in the videos you're about to show. Ask students to complete the crossword puzzle after they have watched all three videos.

Answer key: personal; password; strong; sign out; identity theft; home address; strangers; symbols; private; phrases; friend; privacy

Cybercrime investigator

The Stay-Safe-Online Detective Agency has hired you to become their new cybercrime investigator. Read the letter below to learn more about your first case:

Hello, investigator. One of our computers has been breached by a hacker, and we need your help to determine their identity. You'll find all the clues you need to solve the case in the videos we provided, but it won't be easy. We were going to provide you with our list of top tips for staying safe online, but it appears this information has been compromised and turned into a puzzle. To solve the case, you will have to complete the puzzle. After you've successfully completed the puzzle, the hacker's identity will be revealed. Good luck!

Don't post this kind of information online
1

Never share this with anyone
2

What your password needs to be
5

What you need to do after an internet session
4

What's it called if someone takes your personal information and uses it for criminal purposes?

6

You should never put your
3 online.

Who shouldn't you talk to online?
1

A good password is made up of numbers, upper and lower-case letters, and
8

You should keep any information about you
9 online.

You should consider using lyrics or
7 to help you remember your password.

You should never accept these types of requests from people you don't know
10

You should regularly check these settings on your social media accounts
10

Use the shaded letters to reveal the hacker's identity.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Great job! You've solved the case and learned a few tips to keep you safe online

Student reflection:

Are there any safety tips in the crossword puzzle that you follow?

Are there any safety tips in the crossword puzzle that you will consider following to stay safe online?

What other safety tips do you practice to help you stay safe online?