common sense education®

Digital Citizenship Curriculum Crosswalk

Overview

This document outlines key aspects related to Common Sense Education's **original Digital Citizenship Curriculum Scope & Sequence** as compared to our **all-new curriculum** in 2019. Overall, lessons and other resources included in the new curriculum are easier to use and more relevant for teachers and students today. You will find an explanation of the topic differences, lesson differences, and recommendations for your classroom, school, or district to update your curriculum and plans with our new resources.

How has the curriculum been revised?

There are several key changes to be aware of with the new Digital Citizenship Curriculum. We've carefully considered the latest research on what kids need to know about digital citizenship, what the best pedagogical approach is, and how best to support teachers. Key changes include:

- **Topics** have changed from eight to six core topics, based on the latest research on trends in kids' media use. See more on this change in the next question.
- **Approach** has changed to focus not only on developing students' skills in being safe and responsible online but also on developing lifelong habits and dispositions in digital citizenship to guide students through decision-making in their lives. We are guided by the research of Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. See more information on the **research behind the curriculum**.
- **Format** has changed from downloadable PDFs to easy-to-use docs via Google Drive. If you don't use Google, you can still download or print documents.
- **New resources** within the new lessons have been added, including slides, videos, and parent engagement materials.

How have the curriculum topics been revised?

The original Digital Citizenship Curriculum included eight curriculum topics, with five lessons per grade level, in which some lessons covered multiple topics. Based on the new research on media and kids, we revised our topic structure to be six main topics. Some of the topics are the same, and other topics have adapted to meet new challenges that school communities face today, including media balance, hate speech, and news literacy. The new Digital Citizenship Curriculum offers one lesson on each of the six topics for each grade level (with the exception of grades K–2). So for example, in grades 3–12, you'll find six lessons per grade, one for each of the curriculum topics. With this new curriculum structure, we can offer more relevant, targeted, age-appropriate lessons and learning progression for students.

Self-image & Identity

Digital Footprint & Reputation

Internet Safety

Privacy & Security

Relationships & Communication

Cyberbullying & Digital Drama

Information Literacy

Creative Credit & Copyright

Media Balance & Well-Being
We find balance in our digital lives.

Digital Footprint & Identity
We define who we are.

Privacy & Security
We care about everyone's privacy.

Relationships & Communication
We know the power of words and actions.

Cyberbullying, Digital Drama & Hate Speech
We are kind and courageous.

News & Media Literacy
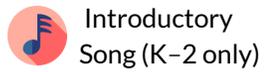*We are critical thinkers and creators.*

What's the research and pedagogical approach behind the curriculum?

We continue to collaborate with Carrie James and Emily Weinstein at Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Their latest research is on the dilemmas young people face with technology in their lives. Working together, our approach to help kids with decision-making, behavior, and reflection has been infused into the approach for our new curriculum. See more about the research behind the new curriculum and topics.

What are the new lessons in the curriculum, and how are they different from the original ones?

The chart below lists all the lessons in the new Digital Citizenship Curriculum. In the right column, you'll see whether or not the new lesson is a revision of an original lesson. (A *revision* means we've updated a learning objective, concept, or activity idea from the original lesson.) Because the curriculum topics and structure have changed, some lessons are completely new, while others are revisions.

common sense education®

New Digital Citizenship Curriculum Topic Key

Introductory Song (K–2 only)	Media Balance & Well-Being	Privacy & Security	Digital Footprint & Identity	Relationships & Communication	Cyberbullying, Digital Drama & Hate Speech	News & Media Literacy

Grade K (age 5–6)	Essential Question	Topic	Revised Original Lesson
Media Balance Is Important	How do we find a happy balance between our online and offline activities?		
Pause for People	How do you say goodbye to tech when you don't want to?		
Safety in My Online Neighborhood	How do you go places safely online?		Going Places Safely

Grade 1 (age 6–7)	Essential Question	Topic	Revised Original Lesson
Pause & Think Online	How can we be safe, responsible, and respectful online?		
How Technology Makes You Feel	Why is it important to listen to your feelings when using technology?		
Internet Traffic Light	How do you stay safe when visiting a website or an app?		Staying Safe Online

Grade 2 (age 7–8)	Essential Question	Topic	Revised Original Lesson
We the Digital Citizens	How can we be good digital citizens?		
Device-Free Moments	Why is it important that we have device-free moments in our lives?		
That's Private!	What kinds of information should I keep to myself when I use the internet?		Keep It Private (formerly a kindergarten lesson)
Digital Trails	What information is OK to have in your digital footprint?		Follow the Digital Trail (formerly a first-grade lesson)
Who Is In Your Online Community?	How are we all part of an online community?		My Online Community

Putting a STOP to Online Meanness	What should you do if someone is mean to you online?		**Screen Out the Mean** (formerly a first-grade lesson)
Let's Give Credit!	How can you give credit for other people's work?		**My Creative Work** (formerly a kindergarten lesson)
Grade 3 (age 8–9)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
Your Rings of Responsibility	How do digital citizens take responsibility for themselves, their communities, and their world?		**Rings of Responsibility**
Password Power-Up	How can a strong password help protect your privacy?		**Powerful Passwords** (formerly a second-grade lesson)
This Is Me	How does what I post affect my online identity?		
Our Digital Citizenship Pledge	What makes a strong online community?		**Digital Citizenship Pledge** (formerly a fourth-grade lesson)
The Power of Words	What should you do when someone uses mean or hurtful language on the internet?		**The Power of Words**
Is Seeing Believing?	Why do people alter digital photos and videos?		**Picture Perfect** (formerly a fourth-grade lesson)
Grade 4 (age 9–10)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
My Media Choices	What makes a healthy media choice?		
Private and Personal Information	What information about you is OK to share online?		**Private and Personal Information** (formerly a third-grade lesson)
Our Online Tracks	How does our online activity affect the digital footprints of ourselves and others?		
Keeping Games Fun and Friendly	How can I be positive and have fun while playing online games and help others do the same?		
Be A Super Digital Citizen	How can we be upstanders when we see cyberbullying?		**Super Digital Citizen** (formerly a fifth-grade lesson)

A Creator's Rights and Responsibilities	What rights and responsibilities do you have as a creator?		A Creator's Rights (formerly a sixth-grade lesson)
Grade 5 (age 10–11)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
Finding My Media Balance	What does media balance mean for you?		
You Won't Believe This!	What is clickbait, and how can you avoid it?		You've Won a Prize (formerly a fourth-grade lesson)
Beyond Gender Stereotypes	How do gender stereotypes shape our experiences online?		Selling Stereotypes
Digital Friendships	How do you keep online friendships safe?		Talking Safely Online
Is It Cyberbullying?	What is cyberbullying, and what can you do to stop it?		What's Cyberbullying
Reading News Online	What are the important parts of an online news article?		
Grade 6 (age 11–12)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
Finding Balance in a Digital World	How do we balance digital media use in our lives?		Digital Life 101
Don't Feed the Phish	How can you protect yourself from phishing?		Scams & Schemes
Who Are You Online?	What are the benefits and drawbacks of presenting yourself in different ways online?		
Chatting Safely Online	How do you chat safely with people you meet online?		
Digital Drama Unplugged	How can you de-escalate digital drama so it doesn't go too far?		Cyberbullying: Be Upstanding
Finding Credible News	How do we find credible information on the internet?		Strategic Searching
Grade 7 (age 12–13)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**

common sense education®

Lesson	Essential Question	Topic	Revised Original Lesson
My Media Use: A Personal Challenge	What is your strategy for finding media balance?		**My Media**
Big, Big Data	How do companies collect and use data about you?		**What's the Big Deal About Internet Privacy?** (formerly an 11th-grade lesson)
The Power of Digital Footprints	What is a digital footprint, and what does yours convey?		**Which Me Should I Be?**
My Social Media Life	How does social media affect our relationships?		
Upstanders and Allies	How can you respond when cyberbullying occurs?		**Cyberbullying: Be Upstanding** (formerly a sixth-grade lesson)
The Four Factors of Fair Use	What rights to fair use do you have as a creator?		**Rework, Reuse, Remix** (formerly a sixth-grade lesson)
Grade 8 (age 13–14)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
Digital Media and Your Brain	How does digital media try to hook you, and what can you do about it?		
Being Aware of What You Share	How can you protect your privacy when you're online?		
Social Media and Digital Footprints: Our Responsibilities	How does using social media affect our digital footprints?		**Trillion Dollar Footprint**
Sexting and Relationships	What are the risks and potential consequences of sexting?		**Sexting & Relationships** (formerly a 10th-grade lesson)
Responding to Online Hate Speech	How should you respond to online hate speech?		
This Just In!	How should we react to breaking news?		**Identifying High-Quality Sites**
Grade 9 (age 14–15)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
My Digital Life Is Like...	What is the role of digital media in our lives?		**Digital Life 102**

The Big Data Dilemma	What are the benefits and drawbacks of online tracking?		
Protecting Online Reputations	How can you respect the privacy of others online?		**Oops! I Broadcast It on the Internet**
Chatting and Red Flags	How can you tell when an online relationship is risky?		
What You Send In "That Moment When..."	How can we act with empathy and positivity when we're online?		**Turn Down the Dial on Cyberbullying**
Hoaxes and Fakes	How can you avoid being fooled by fake videos and other information online?		
Grade 10 (age 15–16)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
Social Media and How You Feel	How can you use social media in a way that feels positive and healthy?		
Risk Check for New Tech	What privacy risks do new technologies present, and how do we decide if they're worth it?		
Curated Lives	How can I create a social media presence that represents the real me?		**Who Are You Online?**
Rewarding Relationships	How can I make sure my relationships are positive and healthy?		
Countering Hate Speech Online	How can we counter online hate speech and xenophobia?		**Building Online Community**
Challenging Confirmation Bias	How can we challenge our own confirmation bias?		
Grade 11 (age 16–17)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
Can Media Be Addictive?	Are we addicted to our devices, and, if so, are companies to blame?		
How Young Is Too Young for Social Media?	At what age should people be allowed to use social media?		

		Topic	
Who's Looking at Your Digital Footprint	How can information you post online affect your future opportunities?		**College Bound**
Connecting with Digital Audiences	How can we use code-switching to enhance our communication with online audiences?		
Online Disinhibition and Cyberbullying	How does online disinhibition sometimes lead to cyberbullying?		
Clicks for Cash	How does internet advertising contribute to the spread of misinformation?		
Grade 12 (age 17–18)	**Essential Question**	**Topic**	**Revised Original Lesson**
The Health Effects of Screen Time	Can screen time be bad for us?		
Debating the Privacy Line	Should the government have access to all your social media and cellphone data?		
The Change You Want to See	How can you create a digital footprint that showcases your purpose?		
We Are Civil Communicators	How can we communicate with civility online?		
Should Online Hate Speech Be Censored?	Should online hate speech be censored?		**Breaking Down Hate Speech**
Filter Bubble Trouble	How can filter bubbles limit the information we're exposed to?		

This icon is hosted by Flaticon, created by FreePik, and licensed as Creative Commons BY 3.0 CC 3.0 BY.