**M5 Lesson 1: Digital Citizenship**

Technology is everywhere, and as you know just from taking this course, we live in a digital society. Learning what digital citizenship means and how technology can connect you with other people and ideas is important, but we need to know how to  use technology responsibly.

**What Is Digital Citizenship?**Source: Jennifer Lowery: Digital Citizenship: Lesson for Kids

You probably have heard that it is important to be a good citizen. So what would it meant to be a good **digital citizen**? Let's look at these words more closely. The word digital refers to any type of technology that you use. Quick! Look around your room and count the digital items you have. It's probably quite a few, right?

If you are a citizen, this means you belong to a group of people. So you could be a citizen of your classroom or your neighborhood. Being a digital citizen means you are a part of the group of people that use technology to communicate. There are rules that you need to follow when you are a digital citizen, to protect yourself and to protect others. Let's find out how you can be a good digital citizen.

One of the great things about technology is that it can connect you with people all over the globe! You can be sitting in your living room and talking to someone in a completely different country. With tablets and laptops, you have a big world of people and information at your fingertips. While this is a great benefit of technology, it is important to follow rules of digital citizenship to stay safe.

One of the best ways you can be a good digital citizen is to talk to your family about what you are allowed to do with your technology and what is off limits. They can keep you protected by limiting where you go and who you talk to when you are online. Then once you know the rules, make sure you follow them.

**The 9 P's of Digital Citizenship** Adapted from: Vicki Davis: What Your Students Really Need to Know About Digital Citizenship

When learning about Digital Citizenship, it's best to think about it as the 9 P's:

***1. Passwords:*** Do you know how to create a secure password, and that email and online banking should have a higher level of security and never use the same passwords as other sites? Do you have a secure app where you store password information?

***2. Private information:***Private information is information that can be used to identify a person. Do you know how to protect details like your address, email, and phone number?

***3. Personal information:*** While some information (like the number of brothers and sisters you have or your favorite food) can’t be used to identify you, the majority of personal information you post online can. It's always best not to post any personal information online.

***4. Photographs:*** Are you aware that some private details (like license plates or street signs) may show up in photographs, and can be used to find out your exact location? Do they know how to turn off a geotagging feature? Do they know that some facial recognition software can find them by inserting their latitude and longitude in the picture—even if they aren’t tagged? Be very cautious when posting any photographs online.

***5. Property:*** Do you understand copyright and ownership of others' work that is posted online? Searching Google Images and copying anything they see could be stealing other's work, and you don't have the right. Google Images compiles content from a variety of sources, so you need to go to the source, see if you have permission to use the graphic, and then cite that source.

***6. Permission:*** Do you know how to get permission for work they use, and do you know how to cite it?

***7. Protection:***Do you understand what viruses, malware, phishing, ransomware, and identity theft are, and how these things work?

***8. Professionalism:***Do you understand the professionalism of schoolwork compared to how you interact in your social life? Do you know about netiquette and online grammar?

***9. Personal brand:*** Have you decided about your voice and image and how you want to be perceived online? Do you realize that you have a “digital footprint” that is almost impossible to erase?

In addition to how we use our phones and technology, it's also important to look at how often. Think about the time that you spend each day on your smartphone, tablet or computer. Are we controlling the technology, or is the technology controlling us?

In this episode of **CBC's Marketplace**, our addictions to technology are investigated. By asking ourselves what we want from technology and being aware of what it wants from us, we are able to become better digital citizens.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\_continue=1&v=ZFJUYS6wY7U

In the following assignment, you will watch a TEDTalk about our use of technology, and complete a journal entry with your views.

**Complete the Module 5 Lesson 1 Assignment**