

Netiquette 101

Time needed: 15 minutes

Recommended Level: All grades

Categories: Cyberbullying, Friendship issues

Common Core Standard (s): ELA: Speaking & Listening,
Language Foundational Skills

Purpose: Students will transfer the courtesies and etiquette of the spoken and written word to the texted and e-mailed word.

DISCUSSION:

Ask the students what electronic communication is. (Texting, e-mail, communicating via social media, etc.) Ask if electronic communication must follow the same rules as spoken or written words. Are we accountable for what we say in electronic communication? Even if you delete an electronic message, how could someone prove you said it? (Printing it, taking a screen shot, etc.) How is electronic communication able to be tracked? Have you ever received a message online or via text that you felt was mean and might even be bullying?

ACTIVITY:

Have a skein of yarn or string. Have the class make a large circle. Explain that one student will throw the skein of yarn to someone else in the circle. Each time the yarn is thrown, the teacher will read a compliment, repeat a gossip, make fun of someone, call them a name, use a negative word, etc. As students toss the yarn, a network will be formed. Explain that texting and e-mailing is just as public as this activity. When you are online, you are connecting with many different people and leaving a "trail" wherever you go.

FOLLOW-UP:

Discuss the following questions with students, or use them as writing prompts:

What is different about saying something to someone online versus saying something to someone when that person is standing in front of you?

What should someone do if he/she is receiving negative or inappropriate messages online?



Helping Everyone with Anti-Bullying,
Respect & Tolerance

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