Lesson: Digital Footprints

Curriculum Areas: Health – Personal Identity and Positive Self-Image

Curricular Outcome(s):
USC4.4
USC5.4

Resources /Materials:
- Pencils
- LCD Projector
- Digital Footprint Worksheet (attached)

Websites and Digital Resources & Sources:
https://www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/digital-footprint
http://elementarydigitalcitizenship.weebly.com/lesson-1.html

Extension:

21st Century Essential Skills:
- Citizenship
- Critical Thinking

Digital Citizenship Concepts and Skills: RESPECT, EDUCATE, PROTECT
- EDUCATE

Digital Citizenship Essential Questions:
- Do I use e-mail, cell phone and instant messaging technologies appropriately when communicating with others?
- What rules, options and etiquette do students need to be aware of when using digital communication technologies?

Essential Knowledge - See Digital Fluency Continuum
- Knowledge: What will students understand?
  - Online activities and communications create a digital footprint that can be negatively or positively impacted by personal choices and behaviours.
- Skills: What will students be able to do?
  - Select and use a wide variety of social media tools for communication purposes, including email.

Essential Question:
What is a digital footprint?
How can our image and digital footprint be impacted by positive or negative choices?

Before:
Warm-up (5 minutes)
What is a footprint? Where do we leave footprints?
Have you ever heard of a digital footprint?
Your digital footprint is a collection of all the stuff you leave behind when you use the internet, such as comments on social media, using apps, emails, websites your visit, phone calls, Netflix, etc. It also includes your personal information, searchers, messages, and other online activity. It is part of your online history and can be seen other people or tracked in a database.

**During:**

Watch the video: [https://www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/digital-footprint](https://www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/digital-footprint)

Discuss using the discussion guide:

- What is a “digital footprint”?
- What does it mean that your digital footprint can be “searched”?
- Have you ever had an experience when something you said or did online was copied and shared?
- Think about three websites you use. Who sees the information you share on each of those sites?
- Do you know anyone who has a really positive digital footprint? What kind of information does he or she share?
- Because your footprint is permanent, information you share now might be seen in the future. If a college saw your digital footprint right now, do you think it would help or hurt your chances of getting in? Are there any ways you can create a more positive digital footprint?
- Does logging off a website or deleting your account erase your digital footprint?

Watch the video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79IYZYVYIVLA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79IYZYVYIVLA)

Build a visual picture of Andy's "Digital Dossier" as it is outlined in the video. Stop at various points to give time for sketching.

At each pause, consider including some of the following things in your sketch:

- Who is posting content about Andy?
- What kind of content/information is being posted?
- Where is the information being sent/shared?
- Does Andy have control over the content?
- How is your online life similar to Andy's footprint? How is it different?

**After:**

Complete the digital footprint worksheet.

**Assessment:**

Students will be able to:
- Define a digital footprint
- Describe the kind of information you could find in your digital footprint.
- Compare and contrast Andy’s digital footprint to their digital footprint.
- Explain the different ways you can create a more positive digital footprint.
What is a digital footprint?

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Draw/Write some of the things that are a part of Andy’s digital dossiers/footprint.
Draw/Write some of the things that are a part of YOUR digital footprint.

Why it is important to protect your digital footprint.

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Tips and advice for protecting your digital footprint. (Complete as a class).

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