

Lesson 2.4: Personal and Private

Objectives

In this lesson, students will:

- Learn about the information websites may collect and how to be discerning about it
- Understand what type of information can put them at risk for identity theft.
- Distinguish between personal information, which is safe to share online, and private information, which is unsafe to share.

Preparation

- Projector and speakers for class video
- Print student activity worksheet, one per student.

Agenda	
Information Websites Ask For	10 mins
2. Private or Personal	15 mins
Student Activity: Private or Personal	15 mins
4. Wrap Up and Reflections	10 mins

Resources & Links

☐ Class video to explain private and personal information to students: https://tinyurl.com/y2ue4fy3





1. Information Websites Ask For

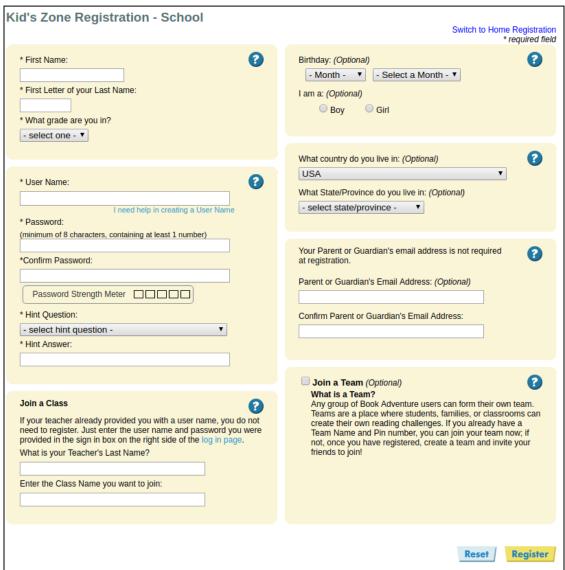


Engage students in an interactive discussion and instruction:

What information is ok to share online that others can see?

Have you been on a website where you have to register in order to participate? Why do they need certain information?

(http://www.bookadventure.com)







Prompt students to give answers.

Discussion Points:	Answers:
What information is required and why do you think it is required?	This may include first name, user name, password, password hint, birth date, gender, the state you live in, parent's permission, etc. It may be required because it helps distinguish one person from another. Or perhaps the website is keeping a record of who uses it.
What information is optional, and why do you think it is optional?	This may include a parent's email, birthday, state, country, gender, etc. Maybe this information is optional because the website does not require it for payment, to distinguish people from one another, or so the website can keep track of this kind of information.
Why do you think websites ask for this kind of information?	They want to get people to pay in order to use the site, they want to send messages to people who are signing up, or they want to try to sell things to those people.

We do not have to fill out fields on websites if they are not required. Required fields are usually marked by an asterisk (*) or are highlighted in red.

2. Private or Personal



Some information is safe to share on the internet, however some information is not. Information that can't be used to identify you, such as your age, how many siblings you have, your favorite food, ... is called **Personal Information** and is safe to share.

Information that can be used to identify you, such as your street address, email, phone number is called *Private Information* and is not safe to share on the internet (students should get permission from a parent or guardian).



The following video helps us distinguish private and personal information: https://tinyurl.com/y2ue4fy3





Private Information

Information about you that can be used to identify you because it's unique to you (e.g., your full name or your address)

Personal Information

Information about you that cannot be used to identify you because it is also true for many other people (e.g., your hair color or the city you live in)

From Common Sense Media - www.commonsense.org

Students Activity:

Pair up students with a partner. Students take turns sharing 2 things about them that are personal and 2 types of information about them that would be private (for example, street address as opposed to actually sharing the address). Students also share if they have ever shared private information online and why that is not a good idea.

Let's look at some examples of information that is unsafe and safe to share on the internet.

UNSAFE - Private Information	SAFE - Personal Information	
Mother's name	Your favorite food	
Social Security number	Your opinion (though it should be	
Your date of birth	done respectfully)	
Parent's credit card information	First name	
Phone number	What else can you think of?	
What else can you think of?		

Why is it not safe to share private information?





Private information shared on the internet can be stolen by people who don't have good intentions. They can then pretend to be the person whose information they stole. These people are called identity thieves. Once the thief has taken someone's identity, he or she can use that person's name to get a driver's license or buy things, even if the person whose identity they stole isn't old enough to do these things! Children are often targeted, so it is very important that kids in particular are careful.

Remind students to ask for permission from their teacher, parent or guardian if any website asks for their private information.

3. Student Activity 2.2: Private or Personal?



Distribute the student activity worksheet and explain the activity to students.

4. Wrap Up and Reflections



Reflection Points:

Directions:

Imagine that we have a new student in class today, and you were getting to know her.

- What is one piece of personal information that you would share with her? Why?
- What is one piece of private information that you wouldn't share? Why not?
- Why is it not safe to share private information online?





Student Activity Worksheet: Private or Personal?

What to do:

Check the box if the information is an example of private or personal information.

Information	Private	Personal
Your name		check
Age		check
Street address		check
Date of birth	check	
Gender		check
Favorite ice cream flavor		check
Credit card information	check	
Phone numbers	check	
Mother's name		check
Your favorite song		check
Name of your school		check