



CSDE Model Curricula Quick Start Guide

Using Digital Citizenship Curriculum K-12

Connecticut's public digital library of open educational resources by and for teachers

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Locating the course supports:

- 1. Curriculum Video**
How to use the Common Sense Education Digital Citizenship Curriculum.
- 2. Resource Library**
Select to find the link to Common Sense Education Digital Citizenship Curriculum site.

Connecticut Model Digital Citizenship for Grade 5

[Common Sense Education Digital Citizenship Curriculum Video](#)

Equitable and Inclusive Curriculum

The CSDE believes in providing a set of conditions where learners are repositioned at the center of curricula planning and design. Curricula, from a culturally responsive perspective, require intentional planning for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the development of units and implementation of lessons. It is critical to develop a learning environment that is relevant to and reflective of students' social, cultural, and linguistic experiences to effectively connect their culturally and community-based knowledge to the class. Begin by connecting what is known about students' cognitive and interdisciplinary diversity to the learning of the unit. Opposed to starting instructional planning with gaps in students' knowledge, plan from an asset-based perspective by starting from students' strengths. In doing so, curricula's implementation will be grounded in instruction that engages, motivates, and supports the intellectual capacity of all students.

Empowering Thoughtful Digital Citizens:

Digital citizenship is a critical skill that empowers students to navigate the complex digital landscape with wisdom, empathy, and responsibility. We strongly believe in a whole-school approach to digital citizenship that engages educators, school leaders, and families in supporting students' technological growth. Our model curriculum is designed to equip students from kindergarten through high school with essential skills to safely and thoughtfully engage with technology, fostering digital literacy, critical thinking, and social-emotional learning. By creating intentional learning spaces that encourage in-person connections, teach impulse control, and develop media literacy, we aim to prepare students to appreciate the nuanced nature of technology use, protect their well-being, and cultivate healthy digital habits that will serve them throughout their lives.

Course Description:

In today's digital landscape, 5th grade students face increasingly complex online interactions and media consumption. This course empowers students to become savvy digital citizens who can evaluate media content, navigate online relationships safely, and respond effectively to cyberbullying. Students will learn to identify clickbait and unreliable news sources, recognize gender stereotypes in media, and develop healthy online friendship boundaries. Through creating personalized media plans, students gain practical tools to make responsible digital choices and become critical consumers of online information.

Save | Details | Course Alignments | Resource Library

Subject: Education
Material Type: Full Course
Level: Upper Primary
Grade: 5
Provider: CT State Department of Education
Provider Set: CSDE - Public
Tags: Add New Tag
Enter
Show More

Selecting the Unit for access to Common Sense Education Digital Citizenship Curriculum:

- 1. Select a Unit**
The unit will open and the lessons will be listed on the right along with the resource library.
- 2. Select the resource Library**
Select "view" to be taken to the Common Sense Education Digital Citizenship site to access the curriculum.

Unit 1 Finding My Media Balance
Unit 2 You Won't Believe This!
Unit 3 Beyond Gender Stereotypes
Unit 4 Digital Friendships
Unit 5 Is It Cyberbullying?
Unit 6 Reading News

Connecticut Model Digital Citizenship for Grade 5 - Finding My Media Balance

Unit 1 Finding My Media Balance

What does media balance mean for me?

5 45 mins.

Resource Library

Finding My Media Balance

What does media balance mean for me?

Helping kids learn what makes different media choices healthy or not is a good start. But how do we help them actually make responsible choices in the real world? Give your students the opportunity to create a personalized media plan.

Objectives

- Reflect on how balanced they are in their daily lives.
- Compare what "media balance" means, and how it applies to them.
- Create a personalized plan for healthy and balanced media use.

Vocabulary

- balance
- media
- media balance

Select the Green Resource Library button to access the lesson

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Do I need to create an account?

A: No, but verified teachers who create an account will have access to lesson plans and more.

Q: How can I learn more about GoOpen CT?

A: On the GoOpen CT homepage, there are four headings along the top. Select "Learn More" to find the [Help Center](#).

Q: Can I modify the unit(s)?

A: Users cannot modify in CSDE-designed Courses and Units published in GoOpen CT. Users should consult local curricular leaders to understand the district curriculum development process before making a decision to modify or adapt. The process for implementation of the CSDE K-12 model curricula is a local decision.

Q: What are the best ways to implement this curriculum in my classroom?

A: The Common Sense Digital Citizenship Curriculum is thoughtfully aligned with Connecticut Core ELA and ISTE (2024), CASEL, AASL standards, and the Connecticut Elementary and Secondary Social Studies Standards, allowing for seamless integration into existing lessons. Here are some additional ways to integrate this curriculum across various content areas:

- **Social Studies:** Introduce the concept of media literacy, identifying credible resources, evaluating news sources and media content to understand responsible consumption of information, and analysis of media influence.
- **Science:** Incorporate lessons on ethical use of technology and digital tools in scientific research and data collection. Discuss the impact of technology on environmental studies and digital literacy in understanding scientific information.
- **Mathematics:** Use digital citizenship themes to teach data privacy and ethical data use. Integrate activities that involve analyzing statistics related to internet usage, cybersecurity, and digital footprints.
- **Arts:** Encourage students to create digital art projects that explore themes of digital citizenship, such as online safety, cyberbullying prevention, and responsible social media use. Discuss the role of digital media in contemporary art.
- **Physical Education and Health:** Integrate discussions about the effects of screen time on physical health, the importance of balancing online and offline activities, and the impact of social media on mental health.
- **Technology:** Engage students in discussions on safe browsing, digital footprints, cybersecurity, and creating a positive online presence.

Q: Is there professional development from Common Sense Education Digital Citizenship Curriculum?

A: Yes, there is a free training course: [Teaching Digital Citizenship](#).

Q: Does Common Sense Education have resources for teachers and district leaders to support families?

A: Yes, there is a guide for schools, districts, and parent organizers: [Engaging Families in Digital Citizenship](#).

Q: Does Common Sense Education have tips and activities for families to use at home?

A: Yes, there are resources for [Family Engagement](#) to use at home. All resources are available in both English and Spanish.

Q: Are there informative posters to display in my classroom or school?

A: Yes. [Free classroom posters](#) are available in English and Spanish for downloading and printing.