

Title: Private Passwords

Cybercitizenship Attribute: Safe

Level: Y 3-4

Overview: Using an animated online cartoon and a password checking tool the students learn about creating strong passwords.

Connect	<p>Talk about the sorts of things the students have secret passwords for e.g. online games and profiles, email accounts, computer network passwords, keyboard locks on mobile phones, secret club passwords, family passwords.</p> <p>Ask how they thought up passwords they set for themselves. (<i>Before doing so, remind the students they shouldn't tell the class what their password is, because then everyone would know it and it would no longer be a secret.</i>)</p> <p>Inform the students you are going to learn how to have a really good password, they are going to think up some new passwords and then test them to see how good they are.</p>	Resources Microsoft Password Checker: http://www.microsoft.com/protect/yourself/password/checker.aspx NetSmartz Password Rap http://www.netsmartzkids.org/uyn/passwordrap.htm <i>Or</i> http://www.youtube.com/user/NetSmartz
Activate	<p>Show the NetSmartz Password Rap</p> <p>Discuss why it's important to have a strong password. (e.g. to help keep your personal information private, so people can't access your stuff like your saved games or game characters or profiles, to protect your work)</p>	Assessment
Demonstrate	<p>Using what they know about passwords following the song, students use the Microsoft Password Checker to check a list of predefined passwords first ranking them from weakest to strongest. This could be completed individually or as a class using a projector. Use the following passwords exactly as shown here: password - passw0rd - Passw0rd - 5trongPassw0rd</p> <p>Students create their own passwords and test them (using the Microsoft password checker or the password strength tester)</p>	
Consolidate	<p>Students change any passwords they may have (home or school) and record how many they changed. This is graphed for the class to see how many passwords the students have between them. Discussion could follow about how much information is protected by these passwords.</p> <p>If the school does not provide individual passwords, have the students write a letter to the network administrator or Principal outlining why it's important to have a strong and unique password and requesting they have one set up for each person in their class/school.</p> <p>Display the 'Use Strong Passwords' reminder next to any computers in the classroom.</p>	