

# Kit's Computing Connections: Understanding Networks

*Learning objective: To understand the basic components and functions of computer networks, including how devices share information.*

Read the front of each flashcard to test your knowledge about how computers talk to each other. Flip the card to check if your answer matches Kit the Fox's definitions!

**What is a computer network?**

A group of computers and devices that are connected together to share information and resources.

**What is a server?**

A powerful computer that provides services, data, or programmes to other computers on a network.

**What is a client?**

A computer or device that requests services or information from a server.

**What does a router do?**

It acts like a traffic controller, directing data packets between different networks to ensure information reaches the right place.

**What is Wi-Fi?**

A way of connecting devices to a network without using physical wires, using radio waves instead.

**What is the Internet?**

The largest network in the world, which connects millions of smaller networks together globally.

**What is data?**

Information, such as text, pictures, or sounds, that is sent across a network in a digital format.

**What is a switch?**

A device that connects multiple computers within a single local network, helping them talk to each other directly.

**What is a data packet?**

A small piece of data that is sent across a network, large files are broken down into these small pieces to travel faster.

**What is hardware?**

The physical parts of a computer system, such as the cables, screens, and the computers themselves.

**Why do we use networks?**

To share files, communicate with others, and allow multiple devices to use the same equipment like printers.

**What is a local area network (LAN)?**

A network that connects computers in a small area, like a single classroom or a house.