

Kit's Cybersecurity Detective Log

Learning objective: To understand the importance of keeping personal information secure online and how to create strong, protected accounts.

Welcome, Junior Detective! Kit the fox needs your help to secure his digital woodland library. Use this log to define key terms, create a secure password strategy, and explain why we must protect our private information. Read each section carefully and provide detailed, thoughtful answers.

Word bank: Password · Encryption · Personal data · Cybersecurity · Secure · Privacy · Phishing · Authentic

1. Defining Cybersecurity: In your own words, explain what cybersecurity is. Why is it essential for children to practise safe browsing habits? (2 marks)

2. The Anatomy of a Strong Password: Kit suggests using a mix of characters. Explain why using a simple password (like '12345' or your pet's name) is a security risk. What makes a password 'un-guessable'? (3 marks)

3. Managing Personal Data: List three examples of 'personal data' that should never be shared with strangers online. Justify why each of these examples must remain private. (3 marks)

4. Identifying Risks: Compare and contrast a secure website and a suspicious one. What are the 'red flags' you should look for before clicking a link or downloading a file? (4 marks)

5. The Consequences of Insecurity: What might happen if a person's digital account was accessed by an unauthorised user? Explain the potential impact on their online identity. (3 marks)

6. Strategy Planning: If you were creating a new online profile, describe the steps you would take to ensure your account remains impenetrable to hackers. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Creative Extension: Design a 'Cyber-Safety Mascot' for your school. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining why your mascot's specific advice is the most important rule for staying safe online. How would your mascot help others understand the importance of digital privacy?