

Digital Detectives: Staying Safe Online

Learning objective: To identify the risks of online communication and demonstrate how to make responsible, safe choices when using digital devices.

Read each scenario carefully. Use your knowledge of online safety to explain how to protect your personal information and wellbeing. Refer to the word bank if you need help.

Kit the fox is busy coding a new game, but he knows that being online means being smart. Whether you are gaming, chatting, or researching for school, your digital footprint matters. Always keep your details private and never share information that could identify you with someone you do not know in real life.

Word bank: Privacy · Personal information · Cyberbullying · Trusted adult · Screen capture · Password · Report · Block

1. Kit is playing an online game where a stranger asks for his home address and school name. Explain why Kit should not share this information and what he should do instead. (2 marks)

2. You receive a message from someone you don't know that makes you feel sad or uncomfortable. Justify your decision to tell a trusted adult rather than replying to the sender. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast a 'strong' password and a 'weak' password. Why is it important to keep your password secret from friends? (2 marks)

4. What might happen if you share a photo of yourself or a friend online without permission? Describe the potential long-term consequences. (2 marks)

5. If you see something online that worries you, why is it better to 'block' and 'report' the user rather than just closing the window? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Digital Shield' poster. In the centre, draw a device (like a tablet or laptop), and around it, illustrate four ways you can keep yourself safe, such as a lock for passwords or a speech bubble showing you talking to a trusted adult.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are an Online Safety Ambassador for your school. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining to Year 3 pupils why they should always ask a parent or teacher before downloading a new app or clicking on a pop-up advertisement.