

## 6-8 Digital Citizenship Pledge and AUP

Students will collaboratively define what it means to be a positive digital citizen. The class will develop a classroom digital citizenship pledge that will guide students in their use of technology in school and at home. To demonstrate understanding of the different components of the district's *Acceptable Use Policy* (AUP), students will engage in a close read of the policy and connect its different components to the definition of digital citizenship.

### Essential Questions:

*What does it mean to be a positive digital citizen?*

### Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to ...

- establish a shared definition of digital citizenship.
- collaborate on a classroom motto about digital citizenship
- develop a digital citizenship pledge.

### Materials and Preparation:

- [Copy of the District AUP](#), one per student.
- Poster paper or legal size paper, one per group of 3-4 students
- Print out one copy of the [We the Digital Citizens Pledge](#) as a poster for your classroom wall (which can be printed in black and white or in color, sizes 8.5" x 11" or 11" x 17").

### Lesson Sequence

#### 1. Class question/discussion (25 minutes):

In small groups of 3 or 4:

On poster paper or legal sized paper, write the term *citizen* in the middle of the paper.

**CREATE** a cluster diagram brainstorming words or short phrases for what it means to be a good *citizen* in your day to day activity

Cluster diagram:



Have students share out a few terms or phrases

**ADD** the word **digital** next to “citizen” in the middle of the diagram

**ASK** *What would you change or add to the chart when thinking about what it means to be a good **digital** citizen?*

Give a few minutes to discuss and add to their diagram

**ASK** groups to share what they added or changed.

**INSTRUCT** student groups to use the ideas on their diagram to write a definition for digital citizenship.

**INVITE** student groups to share definitions with the class

**DISPLAY** definitions in the room

**EXPLAIN** that as members of online communities, your class is going to outline the kinds of expectations you all have for being good digital citizens.

**Reassemble** the class into small groups of two or three students.

**DISTRIBUTE** copies of We the Digital Citizens Pledge Student Handout, one per small group.

**REVIEW** the expectations outlined on the pledge as a whole group.

Adapted from: <https://www.commonsense.org/education/lesson/digital-citizenship-pledge-3-5>

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**INSTRUCT** students to brainstorm for five minutes in their small groups about additional expectations that they feel are important for an online community. Have them fill in the last two speech bubbles on the handout.

### 3. Classroom Collaboration (10 minutes)

**INSTRUCT** students to reassemble to share their ideas. As a whole group, decide on two additional expectations to add to the poster version of your classroom's We the Digital Citizens Pledge.

**ADD** the two additional expectations to a class version of the We the Digital Citizens Pledge

**INVITE** each student to sign the We the Digital Citizens Pledge poster to indicate his/her commitment.

### 4. Close Reading Activity (15)

**DISTRIBUTE** copies of the District AUP, one per student

**INSTRUCT** students to read it one time through to get the gist

- Discuss:
  - What are the main ideas?
  - What jumps out at you?
  - What questions do you have?

**INSTRUCT** students to read the AUP a second time to dig a little deeper

- Discuss:
  - What is the author's purpose?
  - Why did the author use particular words and phrases?

**INSTRUCT** students to read the AUP a third time to put it all together

- Discuss:
  - How does this relate to your responsibilities as a student?
  - Where do you see connections to the definition students created for digital citizen or the digital citizenship pledge?

### 5. Closing (5 Minutes)

What are you agreeing to in signing the We the Digital Citizens Pledge?	In signing the pledge, each student is agreeing to the stated terms and is committing to being an upstanding community member, aka a digital citizen.
Which part of the digital citizenship pledge is most meaningful to you?	Answers will vary.