



Lesson One

EYES AROUND THE WORLD

Who is watching you?

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

These notes are to be read in conjunction with the Lesson Plan (Number 1) and the 'Eyes around the world' worksheet.

Lesson Aim:

To raise awareness and check understanding of personal safety issues when using the Internet.

Year Groups: S1-S3

Children should be familiar with how email works as well as the concept of attachments. They should know what a chatroom is, and what chatting means in that context.

Desired outcomes:

Raising awareness regarding the potential hazards of the internet, in particular personal contacts with strangers through chatrooms and similar.

Children discuss how to resist pressure (including peer pressure) to do wrong, and to recognise when others need help and how to support them. Children will understand the personal safety issues of giving away personal information online. They should be aware of sources of help and support if worrying situations arise and have the confidence to use them. They will do this using the 5 key safety SMART tips that children should remember when using the Internet. This is on the worksheet.

Preparation:

You might wish to look at the www.chatdanger.com website before you start this session to familiarise yourself with how chat rooms work and what are the dangers. You should also explain that in school the Internet is generally filtered and supervised and so it is very unlikely that you would be contacted by someone that you didn't know. Explain, for those children who are less aware, how this is different from out of school use, where more facilities such as Chat and Instant Messaging and Games link you up with potential strangers.

Before introducing the activity, you may wish to have an informal discussion with the children about their experience of chat rooms, email and computers generally. This will help you to pitch the lesson at the right level, and explain any terms which may be unfamiliar.

For children who have never seen a chat room, you can visit a simulated version at Staying Smart Online: <http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/guide.htm>. For more sophisticated children, you can use this lesson to find out more about their attitudes in these environments.

Activity:

This activity is based around a role play exercise. The pupils take on the role of a 13 year old girl called Sarah. Sarah is a friend of Anne Marie who is also 13. Anne Marie has moved away from the area and her father has bought her a computer and a mobile telephone to enable her to keep in touch with her friends. Anne Marie has had several contacts in a chat room, by e-mail and text from a person she does not know. She is not sure how to deal with this and keeps sending Sarah e-mail messages asking for advice. You can divide the children into groups and give them each a message from Anne Marie to respond to. These messages are printed at the end of this sheet. Finally, the exercise looks at all the SMART rules and ends with the pupils having to remember these and make connections between these rules and the advice that they have offered Anne Marie in the lesson.

QUESTION ONE

FROM ANNE MARIE;

'I keep getting emails from this boy Carl. He keeps asking which school I go to and he says that he will come and meet me there one afternoon. The other day he asked me to skip school and spend the day with him on the beach but I made up some excuse about having an important test at school. He is very determined and I'm a bit scared of upsetting him actually. What should I do?'

Write your reply to Anne Marie below:

QUESTION TWO

FROM ANNE MARIE;

'I posted some photographs of me and my friends on the internet. We were just messing about on the beach in our swimsuits. Then some people left some really horrible comments on the site. I removed the photographs straight away and the comments also, but whoever wrote them keeps posting more. Some of the language is really nasty and I don't know how to make it stop; they include my real name. What can I do?'

Write your reply to Anne Marie below:

QUESTION THREE

FROM ANNE MARIE;

'I've been chatting to this really great girl called Shelley. She is really cool and we seem to have so much in common. We have exchanged photographs and chat all the time. She goes to a school about five kms from mine but I don't really know anyone who goes there. I'm thinking of inviting her to meet up next weekend, I know that this is not always safe, but she sounds so cool and genuine I am sure that she is who she says she is and that we'll become great friends, but I won't tell anyone I'm seeing her in case they stop me going 'for my own good'. My dad's being really bad at the moment and grounds me for the slightest little thing. Do you think I should set the meeting up?'

Write your reply to Anne Marie below:
