



Talking to friends and potential friends online is an important part of every teen's life these days. But because it may seem safer and more anonymous than face-to-face contact, kids may not recognize the perils of the World Wide Web: Anything you put out there is out there for good, and there is no stopping its spread.

■ Common Cyber Dangers

Merely being online can leave you vulnerable in a number of ways. Here are a few of the dangers, with suggestions from CyberAngels about how to protect yourself against them.

- **Cyberstalking:** If a person harasses or threatens you repeatedly, that person is a stalker—even if the contact is made only online. The danger is that the contact can get physical. If you think that a cyberstalker knows where you live, contact local law enforcement or the FBI immediately. Log off and stay offline for at least 24 hours. Important: **DO NOT REPLY** to the stalker.
- **Phishing:** It's just like it sounds—the “phisher” uses deceptive devices to lure you into giving up information you wouldn't ordinarily divulge. The bait might come in the form of e-mails or pop-up boxes that look like they're from a bank or other reputable business. Beware if an unknown contact asks you for information like bank account numbers or passwords. Report any suspected phishing e-mails to the Federal Trade Commission at spam@uce.gov.
- **Identity theft:** Be very careful about giving out essential personal information online, such as your Social Security or credit card numbers. Cyber thieves can use this information to run up enormous debts or commit fraud in your name. The consequences of fraud could haunt you for years. When submitting any sensitive data via the Web, always check that the URL starts with “https” and look for a lock icon in the bottom right of your browser to make certain it's secure. Take care that you know who you're dealing with.

■ Other Suggestions

- Change your passwords frequently. When using a public computer, always be sure to log out of your account and quit the browser before leaving.

- If you receive a communication that says a product or service is *free*, chances are that it isn't.
- For more information on cyber safety, check out these Web sites: cyberangels.org, ftc.gov, onguardonline.gov, projectsafechildhood.gov, and wiredsafety.org.

■ Content-Area Questions

CULTURE/SOCIAL STUDIES

1. Why has communicating over the Internet become so popular? Why does it feel “safe” to teens? What are its limitations?
2. If you were to set up your own social-networking site for teens, what safety requirements would you establish? What would you do if a user broke the rules?
3. What kinds of things that you talk about with your friends would you find embarrassing if your parents or future employer found out about them?



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American History Play: Muddy Boots! (pp. 9-11)

► **NCSS STANDARD**
Civic ideals & practices

The upcoming inauguration of Barack Obama will mark a major shift in U.S. presidencies: Obama will be the first African-American to take office. The 1829 inauguration of Andrew Jackson also marked a major shift in U.S. presidencies.

■ Backstory

Andrew Jackson was the first President born a U.S. citizen. (The previous six, all born during colonial times, were British subjects until America declared its independence.) He was the first President of humble birth, and the first born west of the Appalachian Mountains. Perhaps most significant, Jackson was the first President elected by appealing to, and winning the support of, the “common man.” (All voters were men: Women did not have the right to vote until 1920.)

■ In His Own Words

Read the following quotes to students, or write them on the board. Then have students pick one to rephrase in their own words.

- “I know what I am fit for. I can command a body of men in a rough way; but I am not fit to be President.”
- “The people are the government, administering it by their agents; they are the government, the sovereign power.”
- “The President is the direct representative of the American people . . . [and is] elected by the people and responsible to them.”
- “If government would confine itself to equal protection, and . . . shower its favors alike on the high and the low, the rich and the poor, it would be an unqualified blessing.”

- “Our government is founded upon the intelligence of the people. . . . I have great confidence in the virtue of the great majority of the people, and I cannot fear the result.”

■ Write It

- Jackson’s concern for the “common man” did not extend to all Americans. Research and write a paragraph about his complex relationship with Native Americans.

WEB LINKS

- Andrew Jackson’s administration: ipl.org/div/potus/ajackson.html
- Andrew Jackson profile: whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/aj7.html
- Home of President Andrew Jackson: theheritage.com



GeoSkills: Tip-Off! (p. 15)

► **NCSS STANDARD**
People, places, & environments

Using this feature will help students practice using time zones by way of NBA team locations.

■ Backstory

Until the steam engine and the railroad, there was no need for time zones. Each area had its own local time, with noon when the sun was at its height. But fast-moving travelers encountered confusing train schedules when traveling east to west or vice versa. Sir Sandford Fleming, a Scottish-born Canadian railway engineer,

came up with a plan for time zones in the late 19th century. The first international plan for time zones was adopted in 1884.

■ Rapid Review

- The world is divided into 24 time zones (one for each hour in a day).
- The United States is divided into six time zones: Eastern, Central, Mountain, Pacific, Alaska, and Hawaii-Aleutian.
- When traveling from east to west, we turn clocks back one hour per time zone.

- When traveling from west to east, we turn clocks forward one hour per time zone.

■ Look It Up

What is Greenwich Mean Time?

WEB LINKS

- Interactive time-zone map: timezonecheck.com
- Time-zone calculator and interactive map: amadeus.net/home/worldtime/en/wt_en.htm