Informing students about online safety, privacy and citizenship in a fun and engaging way

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Abstract
In today's world, the Internet has become a regular part of our youth's life. Forward-thinking teachers can no longer ignore the incredible potential of utilizing Web 2.0 tools and social media in an educational context. Embracing the possibilities of online interaction is one of the steps towards raising technologically savvy adults, but for this to happen responsibly, it is imperative that we consider the issue of online safety and privacy. Teaching young children to behave responsibly online can be a difficult task due to the serious and often dry nature of the subject matter. Literature in the field demonstrates the importance of taking a different approach when teaching young ones how to become better digital citizens. This project addresses this issue as it offers a response to the critical question, ‘How can intermediate teachers effectively reach their students and inform them about online safety, privacy and citizenship in a fun and engaging way?’ The ensuing eWarrior workshop was developed as a blended learning opportunity composed of a child-friendly website populated by lighthearted characters and an accompanying workbook. Through a series of varied and interactive hands-on tasks, the eWarrior crew guides students in a quest towards better digital citizenship so that they too may become eWarriors. Activities align with the
Digital citizenship, online safety & civility. Home. About & Contact. June 6, 2017 in Child safety: Google's new 'Be Internet Awesome' is a fun way for kids to learn to make smart online decisions. May 9, 2017 in Child safety: ConnectSafely releases free Parent & Educator Guide to Media Literacy & Fake News. Home » Kids’ Rules for Online Safety. Kids’ Rules for Online Safety. 9. I will be a good online citizen and not do anything that hurts other people or is against the law. 10. I will help my parents understand how to have fun and learn things online and teach them...
things about the Internet, computers and other technology. Also see Family Contract for Online Safety. For an overview, read Child Safety on the Information Highway (20th anniversary edition). A Starting Point for Ensuring Student Online Privacy by Anne O'Brien (2014): The online privacy debate has started to gain momentum in the education community and protecting students is an important and necessary conversation to be had by schools and districts. How to Teach Internet Safety to Younger Elementary Students by Mary Beth Hertz (2012): Insights into adapting stranger danger lessons for the virtual world. How can they use it? We have some fun, engaging videos to help teachers and students understand this confusing subject. Media and Digital Literacy. Editor's Pick: Common Sense Education's Digital Literacy and Citizenship Classroom Curriculum. Edutopia's Digital Citizenship pinboard on Pinterest. #DigCit on Twitter. Basic online privacy and safety rules children should learn at a young age include: Ask a parent or teacher for permission before accessing the internet. Access only parent- or school-approved websites. While it's important to frame this in a positive light, placing emphasis on the friendships that are able to develop online, students must understand the difference between online and offline relationships. Learning About Age-Appropriate Websites. The only websites elementary students should access at school are those that have been approved by you for educational purposes.