

## Digital Citizenship Lesson #1-Your digital footprint

**Keep all your digital citizenship lessons together. You will turn them in together for one big grade.**

**Learning Targets:** Students will be able to ...

- learn that they have a public presence online called a digital footprint.
- recognize that any information they post online can help or hurt their image and future opportunities, including their chances for college admission or employment.
- consider how to present an authentic and positive image of themselves online.

**Essential Question:** How can information you post on the Internet affect your future opportunities?

**Lesson Overview:** Students learn that everything they or anyone else posts about them online becomes part of a public online presence known as a digital footprint. Students will view elements of digital footprints and consider how the footprints might affect those admission to college and future career opportunities. Students will discuss what kinds of information they want to include in their own digital footprints, and learn strategies for shaping a positive online presence.

**digital footprint: all of the information that can be found online, posted by you or by others**

**Step 1) Determine your digital footprint-**Write down everywhere you have an online presence, specifically online accounts like instagram, facebook, snapchat, google, youtube, etc. Don't forget accounts like Dropbox or iCloud or other cloud accounts. (Also, make a note if you have multiple accounts.)

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**Step 2) Watch video-** 18 year old, speaks about posting online and college applications. Here is a link to the video: [Abba's Story](#)

**Discuss:** What are your thoughts about this teen's story?

**Step 3) Discuss the following questions in four person table groups.** Be prepared to share out some of your discussion with the whole group.

- Have you seen any posting or picture on a “friend’s” FB, Tumblr, Twitter, Instagram that you think is unwise to post? Without names, explain what and why unwise.
- Have you ever posted anything you later took down because it did or might get someone upset or you in trouble? Did you take it down because you thought to or you were told to?
- Which is worse-posting something mean about someone, posting a too sexy picture or posting party pictures?
- Do kids KNOW they shouldn’t and post anyway? Why? Or do they NOT know?
- Discuss the qualities needed for a *positive* digital footprint? What kinds of posts are helpful/positive to your college and job applications process?

#### **Step 4) Review**

- Posting means losing control of it being passed on and searched by a large, invisible audience.
- Often permanently online, because it is archived in a variety of ways and passed on by others.
- Digital footprint can lead to losing a scholarship, job, or acceptance into college.
- Think of digital footprint as your college application or job resume. Even babysitting or yard work!

#### **Step 5) Activity**

- **Role Play: Evaluate College applications**
- College admissions officers discuss what they found online about a particular candidate. The colleges need to gather information from each candidate’s digital footprint to help justify their decisions.

**Step 6) Debrief this activity**-Focus on the positive

#### **Step 7) Wrap up**

- **Next to each of your warm-up online accounts add something actionable to change:** Write down something you want add or delete to your digital footprint to support your applications for college scholarships, employment, or college admittance.