



CYBER CIVICS

Digital On-Ramps for 4th & 5th Grades

SYLLABUS

Overview

Digital On-Ramps is a completely turnkey digital literacy curriculum that builds the character skills, Internet knowledge, and safety habits 4th and 5th graders need to use technology safely and wisely—now with an Introduction to AI. Every lesson includes an easy-to-follow lesson plan, an engaging hands-on activity, and an entertaining video featuring our intrepid owl mascot (who is just learning to use the Internet too!). Like our popular middle school digital literacy curriculum, this teacher-led, discussion-based program meets national educational standards (CASEL Social-Emotional Competencies, ISTE Tech Standards, Common Core ELA Standards, aiEDU, and Allit), and is CIPA Compliant. Each lesson takes approximately 45–50 minutes to teach.

Syllabus

Unit 1: Values That Guide You

Students identify personal values—kindness, self-discipline, honesty, and more—and practice applying them to real-world and digital scenarios. Values-driven decision-making becomes the foundation for everything that follows.

- Lesson 1: What Is a Value?
- Lesson 2: What Are Your Values?
- Lesson 3: Values Can Guide You Online
- Lesson 4: The Value of Kindness
- Lesson 5: Showing Kindness Online
- Lesson 6: The Value of Self-Discipline
- Lesson 7: Practicing Self-Discipline Online
- Lesson 8: The Value of Tact
- Lesson 9: Showing Tact Online
- Lesson 10: The Value of Mindfulness
- Lesson 11: Practicing Mindfulness Online
- Lesson 12: The Value of Responsibility
- Lesson 13: Showing Responsibility Online
- Lesson 14: The Value of Cooperation
- Lesson 15: Learning to Cooperate Online



Unit 2: Getting Ready To Take Flight

As students begin to use technology, they should be prepared with the basics. In this unit, they discover how the Internet works, how to search for and evaluate information, how to browse wisely and how to tell what's true from what's not. They also practice considering other perspectives.

- Lesson 16: A Short History of the Internet
- Lesson 17: How the Internet Works
- Lesson 18: Let's Get Ready To Search
- Lesson 19: Going Through Your Search Results
- Lesson 20: Browsing Wisely
- Lesson 21: Is It True? Or Not!
- Lesson 22: Picture This: Is It Real?
- Lesson 23: Understanding Another's Perspective



Unit 3: You, Online

Going online requires a lot of responsibility, so in this unit students learn about digital reputations, personal information, consent, respectful communication, and managing emotions—both on and off screen. These lessons help them discover what the kind of digital citizen they want to be.



- Lesson 24: What Does It Mean to “Be Online”?
- Lesson 25: Having an Online Presence
- Lesson 26: What Is Personal Information?
- Lesson 27: Think Before You Post
- Lesson 28: Asking For & Getting Consent
- Lesson 29: Communicating Online
- Lesson 30: Managing Your Emotions
- Lesson 31: Managing Your Emotions Online
- Lesson 32: Finding Just the Right Balance

Unit 4: Online Safety

With a strong foundation in place, students tackle safety head-on: cyberbullying, online scams, stranger danger, password security, device care, and what it takes to be ready for online life.

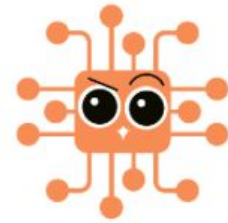
- Lesson 33: Taking Care of Your Devices
- Lesson 34: Opening Your First Account
- Lesson 35: A Word About Passwords
- Lesson 36: Keeping Safe From Scams
- Lesson 37: Keeping Safe From Strangers
- Lesson 38: Keeping Safe From Cyberbullying
- Lesson 39: Are You Really Ready?



Unit 5: Introduction to AI

Students explore what intelligence really means—human and artificial—and discover the AI tools already woven into their everyday lives. They learn to think critically about AI, building the foundation for thoughtful, human-centered AI use.

- Lesson 40: What Is Intelligence?
- Lesson 41: AI All Around Us
- Lesson 42: Can a Chatbot Be Your Friend?



Digital On-Ramps is the entry point to the complete Cyber Civics program:

[Digital Citizenship](#) (Grade 6)

[Information Literacy](#) (Grade 7)

[Media Literacy for Positive Participation](#) (Grade 8)

[Digital Health and Wellbeing](#) (Grades 8-12)

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