CYBER LITERACY
FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

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Summary

Cyberspace is a very big place. You must be aware of the many different roles you can play and the responsibilities you must shoulder as a member of the cyberworld.

In this unit, you’ll explore what it means to be living in the digital age, the pros and cons of technology use, and how to be a responsible cyber citizen.

Unit Contents

Chapter 1  The Cyberworld and Cyber Citizenship 3
Overview

The digital age, the cyberworld, cyberspace—these concepts, which not long ago seemed to belong in a science fiction story, are an important part of life today. In this chapter, you will learn more about these concepts. You will also discover the characteristics of a cyber–literate person, come to understand what it means to be a good cyber citizen, and become informed about the moral principles we call cyber ethics.

Key Terms

- Digital or electronic media
- Virtual
- Cyberworld
- Cyberspace
- Cyber literacy
- Citizen
- Citizenship
- Cyber citizen
- Cyber citizenship
- Digital natives
Living in the Digital Age

Can you imagine a time when computers did not exist? While computers are a vital part of today’s society, there was a time not that long ago that computers were nothing more than an idea. The first machines that we would recognize as “computers” were built during World War II, but they were massive (weighing 30 tons or more) and could be run only by a team of engineers. It wasn’t until the 1970s that scientists and engineers began developing “personal computers”—machines small enough and advanced enough to be operated by just one person—leading to the laptops and tablets we see today.

With the invention of computers, our world changed dramatically. Over the last 40 years, the ways in which we communicate, interact, and connect with others have greatly expanded. Digital or electronic media—which include websites, computer software, e-books, and MP3 files—play an important part in making today’s culture so interconnected. With digital media, we can accomplish many tasks from afar, such as communicating with each other without having to physically be in each other’s presence. Digital media also make other tasks easier. Instead of loading a CD into a CD player, we can tap the screen on an MP3 player and hear our favorite song. Instead of setting up a film projector and a screen, we can watch a video on YouTube. Another benefit of digital media is that they make possible the creation of virtual spaces, or places that exist not in the real world but only online, including virtual schools and museums.

Did You Know?
In 2012, the U.S. Census Bureau reported that nearly 79% of U.S. households have a computer at home, and of those households, about 95% have an Internet connection.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The first “computers” were very large and required a lot of floorspace. ▼

It wasn’t until the 1970s that scientists and engineers began developing “personal computers” such as this early model.
The Cyberworld and Cyberspace

Digital media are part of what is called the **cyberworld**, which is a term given to the modern world of computers, communications, and other digital technologies, such as mobile devices. The term **cyberspace** is used to describe the online environment of the cyberworld in which communications take place. Cyberspace is interactive, which makes it easy to connect with other people and the world as a whole. In fact, in cyberspace, we have 24–hour access, seven days a week, to information, communication, and collaboration.

The sheer size of the cyberworld means that there is a lot of information online that is available to everyone. Before computers, when people wanted to access information, they had to seek out books at a library or visit an expert for advice. However, the cyberworld makes it possible to do research online and acquire knowledge both quickly and efficiently.

Cyber Literacy

What does it mean to live in the digital age? As our use of computers and other digital technologies continues to expand, we must also learn how to use new and emerging technologies. Being both proficient in the use of new technologies and comfortable in the atmosphere of cyberspace is called **cyber literacy**. It includes understanding how technologies work, having the ability to use technologies to perform different tasks, and being able to critique technologies and how people use them. **Cyber literacy includes the abilities listed below:**

- **Knowing how to use software**, such as word processing programs, to type a paper for school
- **Doing research online** to learn about a new topic
- **Understanding how technology can be used** for entertainment, school, work, and personal use
- **Adapting** to new technologies
- **Keeping current** on updates to existing technologies

Over the last 40 years, the ways in which we communicate, interact, and connect with others have greatly expanded, while our digital devices have gotten smaller and more powerful.
Pros and Cons of Technology Use

One thing to keep in mind is that the size of the cyberworld also means that the ways we live, think, and communicate are all changing. Use the information below to review the pros and cons of technology use. Think about how you benefit from using technology and how you can be harmed by it.

**Pro: Quick Access to Information**
People can access information quickly and efficiently. What used to take hours of research in a library can now be accomplished in minutes with an online search engine.

**Con: Overuse of Technology**
People may spend too much time using technology. Overuse can lead to spending less time participating in the real world, which can affect relationships and social interactions.

**Pro: Ease of Communication**
People can communicate easily with friends and family online through email, texts, and social media platforms such as Facebook.

**Con: Social Isolation**
Increased online communication may create isolation from real-world friendships and face-to-face exchanges.

**Pro: Productivity**
People can accomplish tasks and increase their productivity through the use of technology.

**Con: Growing Too Dependent**
There is the possibility of growing too dependent on technology, which can negatively influence the ability to think critically and solve problems by yourself.
Citizens of the Cyberworld

Have you ever played on a sports team or participated in a group activity, such as volunteering at an organization or attending a birthday party? Every person is a citizen, or a member of different groups, whether at school, at home, or in his or her personal life. From staying safe to acting ethically, citizenship means participating in your world in a responsible way. When we embody good citizenship, we practice safe, ethical, and responsible decision–making, because we know that our actions can impact other members of the group or community.

Just as we have responsibilities in the real world, we also have responsibilities in the cyberworld. When you participate in the cyberworld, you become a cyber citizen, or a member of the global online community. Cyber citizenship is taking responsibility for your role in cyberspace and engaging in positive and ethical decision–making to stay safe online.

For many people today, maintaining positive cyber citizenship is a natural part of living in the digital age. This is because many people are digital natives, or people who were born after the invention of digital technology and have grown up using it. Digital natives are very familiar with digital technology and tend to understand it more thoroughly than people born before its invention.

Remember:
Digital natives are people who were born after the invention of digital technology and have grown up using it.
Your Role as a Cyber Citizen

What is your role as a cyber citizen? In the same way you understand how to responsibly fulfill certain roles as a citizen of your personal communities, you must understand how to do the same as a cyber citizen. Shown below are the responsibilities of real–world citizens and the responsibilities of cyber citizens. Find the similarities and differences between the two lists, and think about your own actions in the cyberworld:

Real–World Citizen Responsibilities

- Listen and respond thoughtfully to others.
- Be cooperative and kind.
- Maintain an open mind and a willingness to help others.
- Follow rules set by the communities in which you participate, such as school, family, or sports teams.
- Communicate effectively.
- Respect others.
- Treat others the way you want to be treated.

Cyber Citizen Responsibilities

- Use respectful and kind language, not hateful or bullying words.
- Treat others the way you want to be treated.
- Don’t share private information, such as your passwords or home address.
- Don’t plagiarize, or steal, information from the Web and use it as your own.
- Protect yourself and your computer by following security measures.

Cyber citizen responsibilities apply to everything you do online.
Respect and Responsibility

Being a good cyber citizen means following the key concepts shown below:

1. **Respect**
   
   Always be courteous and respectful to others online as you would be in real life. The age–old saying *Treat others as you would like to be treated* is an important rule to maintaining positive cyber citizenship. For example, if you wouldn’t want someone to speak meanly to you or to be hurtful, then you should also refrain from using mean language online.

2. **Responsibility**
   
   Taking responsibility for one’s actions is an important part of being a cyber citizen. Just as students refrain from cheating on exams in the classroom, they should also refrain from plagiarizing another’s online writing or using copyrighted photographs they find on the Web without permission. A good rule of thumb is to behave in the cyberworld in the same way you would in the real world.

Online Ethics

While respect and responsibility make up the core of a good cyber citizen, another important part of positive cyber citizenship is ethics, or the moral principles we follow as citizens. We use ethics to make choices every day, both online and offline. Cyber ethics are specific to the principles that drive our actions while using the Internet, and they resemble many of the ethical guidelines we follow in the real world.

What Constitutes Unethical Behavior?

Is it unethical to use software for which you have not paid? Is it unethical to steal personal information? How about looking through someone else’s email or social media accounts? In both the real world and the cyberworld, these actions are all unethical behaviors because they result in other people being hurt. You will learn more about cyber ethics, also called online ethics, in Chapter 11.
**What Do You Think?**

Write a reflection of three to five paragraphs on what roles you play in the cyberworld and how you fulfill your responsibilities as a cyber citizen. Your paragraphs should answer the following questions:

1. What types of technology do you regularly use? Do you use computer software, mobile devices, or entertainment technologies?
2. What advantages and disadvantages are associated with using the technologies you described in your answer to question 1?
3. What are similarities and differences between cyber citizenship and citizenship in communities in the real world?
4. In what ways do you believe you are a good cyber citizen?
5. How does your role as a cyber citizen compare to the cyber citizen roles played by your parents or friends?

**Challenge: What Would You Do?**

In this chapter, you learned about some of the technologies that are part of the cyberworld. Now, apply what you have learned. Read the scenarios below and determine which technologies can be used in each. To find the answers, use the information in this chapter, your prior knowledge, and information you find by doing research online. Write one or more sentences to provide an answer for each scenario.

1. Jessica wants to communicate with a friend who lives in another state without speaking aloud.  
   **What technologies can Jessica use to do this?**

2. Thomas wants to buy music without visiting a store.  
   **What technologies can Thomas use to take this action?**

3. Janice wants to watch a movie without going to a movie theater.  
   **What technologies can Janice use to do this?**
### Activity 1  Key Terms

For each term, write a definition in your own words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cyberworld</th>
<th>Digital native</th>
<th>Cyber citizenship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital or electronic media</td>
<td>Cyber literacy</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Activity 2  Short Answer

Write a one– or two–sentence response to each of the prompts below.

1. Explain how digital or electronic media have made our lives easier.
2. Describe how digital natives differ from people who are not digital natives.
3. Define the term cyber citizen.
4. Identify three elements of citizenship in the real world.
5. Identify three elements of citizenship in the cyberworld.

### Activity 3  True or False?

Using the information from this chapter, determine whether each statement is true or false.

1. As a citizen of the cyberworld, you are responsible for your actions and behaviors.
2. There are no cons associated with technology use—only pros.
3. Digital media assist in many everyday activities, including communicating with others, listening to music, and viewing videos.
4. Cyber literacy discourages people from learning about new technologies.
5. Cyberspace is interactive, which makes it easy to connect with other people and the world as a whole.

continued
Cyber Citizen Survey

As the cyberworld continues to expand, our duties as cyber citizens will also change over time. What roles do we have as cyber citizens? What responsibilities must we fulfill in the cyberworld? Do people view cyber citizenship differently? In this activity, you will answer these questions by learning what people think about their roles and responsibilities in the cyberworld.

**Step 1** Make a list of at least five people whom you can survey about cyber citizenship. Think of people such as your family members, friends, teachers, coaches, or neighbors.

**Step 2** Arrange a time to meet with each of the people on your list and ask each person the questions below. Record their answers on a piece of paper.

- What do you think of the cyberworld?
- What does the term *cyber citizenship* mean to you?
- What roles and responsibilities do you have as a member of the cyberworld?

**Step 3** Analyze the information from each of your interviews and look for similarities and differences in answers.

**Step 4** Write a one-page analysis reflecting on what you learned through your cyber citizen survey. In your analysis, write about the different definitions of cyber citizenship that you received and the similarities and differences in how people view the cyberworld.
Hands-On

Cyber Collage

Have you ever thought about how you use technology and what role you play in the cyberworld? In this activity, you will get the chance to explore your own behavior, practices, and participation in the cyberworld by creating a cyber collage.

Using images and text, create a collage representing your role in the cyberworld. Include different types of technologies you commonly use. To create your collage, you may use a software design program. You may also draw your images or use images found online or in magazines or newspapers.

Use the following prompts to help you as you select images and text for your collage:

- **Types of digital media you use**
  Do you use a computer or an MP3 player? What about the Internet or online communication methods?

- **Your habits in the cyberworld**
  Do you browse the Internet or check your email every day? How often do you chat with friends online?

- **How and why you use digital media**
  For what reasons do you use technology? Do you use computers for personal use, for school, or for both?

- **Why you like or dislike certain digital media tools**
  What technology do you feel you couldn’t live without? Why?
Cyber Citizen Song/Rap

Society is governed by different sets of rules. There are rules you follow in order to show good manners when addressing adults, for example, or when eating at a restaurant. In this chapter, you learned some of the responsibilities of a good cyber citizen. Which do you feel are most important? What other rules would you add to this list? This is your chance to explain how you feel people should act in cyberspace.

Your teacher will put you in small groups. With your group members, decide on a list of at least 10 rules that you believe cyber citizens should follow while participating in the cyberworld. Write a song or rap that includes these rules and brief explanations of each. You can set the song or rap to the melody of an existing song, or you can make up your own melody.

Practice your song or rap with your group and then perform it for your class. You can play music to accompany your group and use props and costumes. Have fun with this assignment!
Defending Against Danger

Staying Safe and Secure on the Web

Summary

Surfing the Web can be as exciting as riding waves at the beach, but there are also some dangers for which you must watch out.

In this unit, you’ll explore how to surf the Web safely, protect yourself from cyberbullying, and avoid identity theft. You’ll also learn about computer hacking, viruses, and the importance of securing private data in order to avoid potentially dangerous situations.

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Chapter 2
Let’s Go Surfing: Internet Safety

Overview
Welcome to cyberspace! You’ve come to the right place to learn the basics of the Internet and the World Wide Web. In this chapter, you will examine the two main types of websites, weigh the benefits and drawbacks of surfing the Web, and learn how to safely conduct effective searches online.

Key Terms
- Internet
- World Wide Web
- Website
- Web pages
- Online
- Informational website
- Corporate website
- Inappropriate material
- Search engine
- Keywords
- Results page
- Efficient search
- Boolean search
- Search strategies
- Research questions
- Extract
- Online rules
Welcome to the World Wide Web

The Internet is a global communication network that allows computers to exchange and share information worldwide. The World Wide Web is a subset of the Internet. It’s a collection of pages connected by hypertext links. (Many people, however, use the terms Internet and World Wide Web interchangeably, which is acceptable usage.) A website is a group of web pages that focus on a particular subject. When you are online, it means that you are on the Internet and are likely visiting websites.

While traveling in the real world can cost big bucks, we can travel anywhere online for free. From learning about foreign countries to getting advice on how to master a video game, we can use the Internet to discover a vast array of information about many places, people, and things.

Types of Websites

While there are many different types of websites on the Internet, the two most common are informational and corporate, or e-commerce.

Informational

People visit an informational website to gather information and learn about something. One example is the website of a city, which provides information about city government, departments, public services, businesses, and events. Another example is a website devoted entirely to tree frogs, where we could learn what they eat, how they spend their time, and other interesting facts about them. Websites such as

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Informational Websites</th>
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### Table 2.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Drawbacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resources:</strong> You can find information on just about anything by searching the Web. Nearly unlimited online resources help us learn about new concepts and explore areas that interest us.</td>
<td><strong>Overwhelming Variety:</strong> Because there are so many informational websites, it can be overwhelming to sift through all of the data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge:</strong> You can learn many new and interesting things by reading informational websites. The ease of Web surfing allows us to acquire knowledge quickly and easily.</td>
<td><strong>Questionable Credibility:</strong> Just because information is posted on a website doesn’t mean that it is true. Be sure to check the credibility of each website you visit to ensure you can trust the information.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
weather.com (The Weather Channel), CNN.com, and britannica.com (Encyclopedia Britannica) are other examples. We use informational websites to explore and expand our knowledge, whether we are doing research for a school or work assignment or are simply seeking to satisfy our own thirst for learning.

**Corporate and E-Commerce**

A corporate website can be informational, but its primary purpose is to convince people to buy something, such as an idea, a product, or a subscription. For example, Procter & Gamble, maker of goods such as shampoo and pet food, has a website that describes its company and its products. On Nike’s website, you can find descriptions of its shoes and clothes, and you can buy them there as well. Online stores or auction sites such as eBay and Amazon are e-commerce websites on which you can buy and sell products. While you can buy a pair of shoes straight from Nike’s website, you can also buy Nike shoes from e-commerce stores such as Amazon. We often use corporate and e-commerce websites if we want to make a specific purchase or learn about a product. Just be careful, though. Sometimes corporate websites are sneakily disguised as informational websites!

Read Tables 2.1 and 2.2 for more information on informational and corporate/e-commerce websites.

**Table 2.2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Drawbacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Useful Information</strong>: Corporate websites can help us learn about new products or services.</td>
<td><strong>Misleading Information</strong>: Sometimes corporate websites disguise themselves as informational websites in the hopes of convincing users that third parties (scientists, journalists, or other experts) are providing the information. They want to fool you into thinking that “experts” like their products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instant Access</strong>: We can access many different products and services through corporate and e-commerce websites. If something isn’t available in stores, we may be able to purchase it online.</td>
<td><strong>Too–Easy Purchasing Power</strong>: E-commerce websites make it very easy to make a purchase—sometimes almost too easy! In just one click, an online purchase can be made. Be sure to read websites carefully so you don’t accidentally buy something you don’t want!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Benefits of Surfing the Web

Going online can be fun, because you can visit websites devoted to your favorite things, including books, music, and movies. Going online can also be beneficial, because on the Web you can find information that will expand your knowledge base and help you with your studies. Three benefits of surfing the Web are described below:

1. Easy Data Comparison

On the Web, we can research, gather, and compile a broad range of data from many different sites. Data-gathering online can be quicker and more efficient than gathering data from traditional print sources, although you must be careful to use only credible sites.

2. Convenient Media Consumption

Prior to the invention of the Web, we had to go to a movie theater or buy or rent a DVD to watch a movie. Today, we can simply “stream” movies to just about any digital device. The same goes for music and books; we used to have to go to stores and buy CDs and books, but now we can download music and novels.

3. Communication

Chatting with friends and family is easy when you use Web tools such as social networking sites and chat rooms.

Fact!

Did You Know?

One of the great things about devices such as tablets is that they weigh much less than standard textbooks. In one study, middle school students wearing backpacks that weighed more than 20% of their body weight reported back pain.

Source: WebMD

Going online can be fun, because you can visit websites devoted to your favorite things.
Drawbacks of Surfing the Web

Searching the Web is fun, but it’s not without its dangers. **Four drawbacks of surfing the Web are shown below:**

1. **Exposure to Inappropriate Material**
   Sometimes, when you are surfing the Web, you are accidentally exposed to **inappropriate material**, such as violent content or websites that make you feel uncomfortable.

2. **Exposure to Cyberbullying**
   As you will learn in Chapter 3, cyberbullying can be a real problem for teenagers. People who are cyberbullied can suffer many ill effects, such as depression, health problems, and falling grades in school.

3. **Attack by Hackers or Cybercriminals**
   Computer hackers are people who electronically break into others’ computers. Some hackers are merely out to cause mischief, not to engage in illegal activities. But some hackers attempt to steal your personal information. These hackers, especially hackers who commit financial crimes, are called cybercriminals.

4. **Attack by Viruses**
   When you surf the Web, you may accidentally pick up computer viruses, or malicious software, that can damage your computer.

Although surfing the Web can be enjoyable, we all must be aware of its potential dangers.
Did You Know?

Nearly 6 billion Web searches are completed every day on Google.com.

Source: Statistic Brain

The Three Key Factors of Surfing the Web

When you surf the Web, you should always keep in mind (1) search, (2) strategy, and (3) safety. Smart strategies will help you conduct efficient searches, and a focus on safety will help protect you from online threats:

1. **Search**

One tool we can use to find something on the Internet is called a **search engine**, a tool that helps us wade through the billions of websites to locate only those that are specific to our search. Three of the most popular search engines are Google, Yahoo!, and Bing.

We type **keywords**, which are words that are most relevant to our topic, into a search engine. The search engine gives us a **results page** that displays all of the websites it has located that are connected to our keywords.

It’s important to use accurate keywords in order to create an **efficient search**, or a search that finds the most relevant and credible information specific to our subject. If we use vague or unrelated keywords, our search will take longer, and it will become more difficult to find the information we need.

Here is a results page from a Google search on the anatomy of the frog. The search engine provides the most relevant results based on the **keywords** you enter. It suggests additional keyword searches and also presents initial results for an image search.
When looking for information on the Web, it may help to conduct a **Boolean search**, in which you use logical operators to connect keywords. The most common Boolean operators are **and**, **or**, and **not**.

**And**  Using **and** between keywords narrows a search by asking search engines to retrieve only websites or documents that contain both of the keywords.

For example, the search *dogs and cats* will find websites that reference both dogs and cats.

**Or**  Using **or** between keywords broadens a search by finding information relevant to both keywords, though not necessarily in the same website or document.

For example, using the keywords *dogs or cats* will expand the search by retrieving information on both dogs and cats.

**Not**  Using **not** narrows a search by excluding certain information.

For example, the search *pets not dogs or cats* will retrieve information about pets, while excluding topics related to dogs or cats.

▲ Compare the sample Boolean searches shown above. Note the different results that are returned for **And**, **Or**, and **Not**.
Strategy
While searching the Web is as easy as typing keywords into a search engine, there are search strategies we can use to ensure we get the best results.

Research Questions
When you are researching something on the Web, begin with research questions. These can include questions you have about a subject and what you want to learn. For example, if you are researching astronomy for a school report, you might begin with the research question “How many constellations exist?”

Extract Keywords
Extract, or take out, keywords from your research questions as a starting point for what to type into a search engine. If we use the research question “How many constellations exist?” we might extract the word constellations to type into a search engine.

Use Synonyms
If research question keywords do not give you the results you’re looking for, type in synonyms or other alternative word choices and search again. For example, we can search the keywords stars and Big Dipper in addition to constellations. We can also combine keywords for different results.

Record Results
Keep track of what keywords you use. That way, you won’t repeat the same search, and you can continue to expand search strategies and keyword choices. As you learn more about a subject, you’ll be able to add more keywords to your list to search.

Keep track of your keywords while you search.
Safety

With so many websites to explore, there’s no doubt that surfing the Web can be a fun adventure. But just as we stay safe in the real world by following certain rules, we stay safe in the cyberworld by following certain rules and by using common sense. To stay safe while surfing, follow the Dos and Don’ts listed in Figure 2.1.

Figure 2.1

Safety Dos and Don’ts on the Web

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dos</th>
<th>Don’ts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Do talk with a parent or guardian first about what <strong>online rules</strong> you will follow, such as which websites you may visit and what time limits you have for surfing the Web.</td>
<td>• Don’t give out private information such as your home address or your telephone number, even if you’re giving it to someone you know.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do tell a trusted adult if you stumble across any information that makes you uncomfortable.</td>
<td>• Don’t share passwords with anyone, including your email provider. Account providers such as email or social networking services will never ask for your private passwords.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do tell a trusted adult if you witness any instances of cyberbullying or mean behavior online. For more information on cyberbullying, read Chapter 3.</td>
<td>• Don’t meet up with someone on– or offline without a parent’s or guardian’s permission. Remember that “stranger danger” applies online just as it does in real life. Never share private information about yourself with strangers, and never meet up with someone you’ve met only online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do realize that people you meet online may not be who they say they are.</td>
<td>• Don’t visit risky and inappropriate websites. These may include sites that are labeled specifically for adults or that may contain information that makes you feel uncomfortable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Safety first!
Many teens and their parents or guardians find that a good way to ensure online safety is for the teens to take a “Safe Surfing Pledge.” A sample pledge is shown in Figure 2.2.

Figure 2.2

Safe Surfing Pledge

- I will not share personal information.
- I will not share passwords.
- I will report inappropriate content.
- I will report instances of cyberbullying.
- I will follow the rules outlined by my parent or guardian for Internet use.
- I will not meet someone in real life whom I’ve met previously only online without my parent’s or guardian’s permission.

To be safe on the Web, take the “Safe Surfing Pledge.”
What Do You Think?

Write a two-paragraph reflection on the most effective Web search strategies. Your paragraphs should answer the following questions:

1. Why is it important to develop research questions before you search the Web?

2. How do you use keywords to find information on the Web?

3. In your opinion, are Boolean searches always helpful?

4. What would you do if your search with the keyword *sports* turned up too many search results?

5. What would you do if your search with a certain keyword turned up no useful search results?

In this chapter, you learned about how to be safe while surfing the Web. Now, apply what you have learned. Read the scenario below and write one paragraph explaining what you would do if you were faced with a similar situation.

**Scenario:**

Kristi and Mia are having a sleepover, and Mia thinks it would be fun to join a chat room. Kristi has talked with her parents about the online rules she will follow when she’s surfing the Web at home, and one of the rules is to never enter a chat room without an adult’s permission. It’s late, and Mia’s parents are both asleep, so they can’t ask for permission. Mia says it’s okay and that her parents let her chat online all the time, but Kristi is worried about breaking the rules.

**What should Kristi do?**
Extension Activities

Activity 1  Multiple Choice

Read the questions below. Use what you have learned in this chapter to help you choose the correct answer.

1. What would you do if someone asked for your password to your email account?
   A. Ask why he or she wants your password.
   B. Give out your password.
   C. Refuse to share your password.

2. When is it okay to meet someone in person whom you’ve met only online?
   A. It’s safe, but only if you meet in a public place.
   B. It’s okay as long as you’ve known the person for at least six months.
   C. It’s never okay, unless a parent or guardian gives you permission.

3. What would you do if you received a hurtful message online?
   A. Tell a parent or trusted adult.
   B. Ignore it.
   C. Send a rude message back.

4. What is the first step in a strategic Web search?
   A. Type the first word that comes to mind.
   B. Develop research questions.
   C. Record results.

5. What are the three key factors of surfing the Web?
   A. Safety, security, and strategy
   B. Security, strategy, and search
   C. Search, strategy, and safety
Chapter 2: Assessment

Activity 2  
**Key Terms**

For each term, write a definition in your own words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World Wide Web</th>
<th>Informational website</th>
<th>Corporate website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keywords</td>
<td>Search engine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activity 3  
**Internet Safety**

Read each of the situations below and determine if they are examples of using the Internet safely. Write one paragraph of three complete sentences for each situation. Use what you have learned in the chapter to justify your answers.

**Situation 1**
Jodi is researching insects for a school science project. During her keyword search, she discovers a website for a company that sells ant farms. She wants to learn more about how ant farms work. In order to get more information, Jodi fills out an online form. The form requires her to share her name, email address, home address, and phone number.

*Is this safe Internet use? Why or why not?*

**Situation 2**
Jacob gets a message from his email provider stating that his account isn’t working properly and needs to be fixed. The message asks for his password, and Jacob provides it, because he’s worried he may not be able to access his email if his account isn’t fixed.

*Is this safe Internet use? Why or why not?*

**Situation 3**
Matt meets a new friend in a gaming chat room online. The friend lives in a nearby town. The friend wants to get together in person so they can exchange ideas on how to beat their favorite game, but Matt isn’t sure if he should go.

*Is this safe Internet use? Why or why not?*
Research Your Favorite Animal

Surfing the Web can be fun, and it can lead you to many interesting websites. To put your research skills to the test, you’ll be investigating your favorite animal by following a few simple steps.

Step 1  Select an Animal
Think about what your favorite animal is and why you like this animal. If you don’t have a favorite, think about pets you or your friends may have or an animal that you are interested in learning more about. Pick one animal for the purposes of this assignment.

Step 2  Research Questions
Brainstorm a list of 5 to 10 questions you have about your animal. You’ll use your questions as a starting point for searching the Web. What do you want to learn about the animal? Here are some questions to get you started:

- What kind of food does the animal eat?
- Where does the animal live?
- How does the animal spend its time?
- What does the animal look like?

Step 3  Extract Keywords
Using your research questions, extract keywords that you can type into a search engine. Write down each of the words you will use and any other words that you can think of that might help you in your search.

Step 4  Search Keywords
Visit one of the following search engines and type the keywords into the search engine one at a time. Review the results pages and click on websites that will tell you more about your animal.

- www.kidrex.org
- www.kidsclick.org
**Step 5  Record Results**

After you visit each website, record your results. Record everything you learn about your animal, paying close attention to information that might answer your research questions.

**Step 6  Final Assessment**

Assess the information you gathered. For each of your research questions, write a one-paragraph answer that includes three to five complete sentences.