

**TOPIC**

Respect & Responsibility

LEVEL

Fifth Grade

THEME

Digital Responsibility

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the lesson, the students are expected to:

- Explain what it means to be respectful and responsible online.
- Identify the consequences of unkind or irresponsible online behavior.
- Create and share positive messages online that show respect for myself and others.

MATERIALS

- Chart paper or whiteboard and markers
- Digital Scenarios

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- How is showing respect online the same as showing respect in person?
- Why should we think before we post, share, or comment online?
- How can we use the internet to spread kindness and show "I've got your back"?

CHECK-IN / WELCOME (5 MINUTES)

Say: "In Aavidum, we say 'I've got your back.' That doesn't stop when we leave school. It's just as important online. Today, we'll learn how to show respect and responsibility in the digital world."

Check-In Question:

- "Raise your hand if you've ever gotten a text, message, or comment that made you feel happy. How about one that hurt your feelings?"
 - Allow some brief share-outs to connect feelings to online actions.

GUIDED DISCUSSION / TOPIC INTRODUCTION (10 MINUTES)

Put "Digital Footprint" on the board.

Ask: "What do you think a digital footprint is?"

Explain: "A digital footprint is everything we post, share, or say online. It stays there and shows others who we are."

Discuss:

- "How is showing respect online the same as in real life?"
- "What happens if we post or send something unkind?" (Focus on impact on others and consequences.)

Say: "Being respectful online is another way we show, 'I've got your back,' because our words are powerful and they can lift others up or bring them down, even through a screen."

ACTIVITY: PAUSE BEFORE YOU POST(20 MINUTES)
Instructions:

- Present scenarios (projected or read aloud):
 - Scenario: Jordan posts a picture of their science project. Sam comments, “Great job! Your project looks awesome!”
 - Discussion: How does this comment make Jordan feel? Why is it respectful?
 - Scenario: Mia posts a selfie. Alex comments, “You look weird in that picture.”
 - Discussion: How might Mia feel reading this? What’s a kinder thing Alex could have said?
 - Scenario: A group chat is made with everyone in the class except for one student on purpose. In class, they reference inside jokes and it makes that student feel left out.
 - Discussion: How does exclusion online affect someone? What could someone in the chat do to show respect?
 - Scenario: Ben takes a funny photo of his friend eating lunch and posts it online without asking. The friend feels embarrassed.
 - Discussion: Why is it important to ask permission before sharing?
 - Scenario: Lily knows her friend is nervous about a test, so she texts: “You’ve got this! You studied hard!”
 - Discussion: How can sending kind messages make someone feel supported?
 - Scenario: Someone posts in a group chat: “I heard that Alex cheated on the test!” It isn’t true.
 - Discussion: What happens when we spread rumors online? How should this situation be handled responsibly?
- After each scenario, pause for discussion.

“Pause Before You Post” Game Instructions:

- Instruct students to hold up a thumbs up symbol for a message that is “Kind” and a thumbs down symbol for a message that is “Not Kind.”
- Show (or read aloud) short sample online messages. Instruct students to hold up the sign they think fits.
 - “Thanks for helping me in math today.”
 - “Stop sitting with us at lunch.”
 - “I like your art project. It’s so creative!”
 - “Did you see what Jamie wore today? Lol so weird!”
 - “Great job in the game today!”
 - “I hope you feel better soon.”
 - “You’re so bad at that game. Why do you even play?”
 - “That’s so cool! Can you teach me how you did it?”
 - “That drawing looks terrible.”
 - “I’m making a group chat but not inviting Alex because he’s annoying.”
- After each, discuss why it is or isn’t kind and how to rewrite unkind messages respectfully. Remind students of the value of pausing before posting/sending, especially when they’re having big feelings about something.

WRAP-UP (5 MINUTES)
Ask:

- “Why should we think before we post or send something online?”
- “How can we use social media or messaging to show ‘I’ve got your back’?”

Say: “Send or share one kind message online this week. Remember, your words can change someone’s day for better or worse. What kind of classmate are you going to be?”