Bad Netiquette Stinks

Overview

Students will learn the definition of netiquette and discuss the importance of having good manners online. They will create a "netiquette net" to capture examples of bad online manners.

Materials / Preparation

- Computer lab or computer connected to an LCD projector
- Video - "Bad Netiquette Stinks"
- Attachment 1 - Examples of bad netiquette
- Chalkboard/whiteboard
- Construction paper
- Crayons/markers
- Glue
- Scissors
- Yarn

25 minutes

Introduction

Write the word "netiquette" on the board and read the following definition aloud: *Netiquette is a set of rules for practicing good manners on the Internet.* Explain to students that one of the most common examples of bad netiquette is being mean or rude to others online. This is also known as cyberbullying.

Show the video "Bad Netiquette Stinks" to introduce students to the NetSmartz cyberbullying villain, Potty-Mouth Pete.

Ask students to describe what happened when Potty-Mouth Pete's De-Neticator spread the green smoke: *Kids started being mean to each other online by calling each other names, typing in all caps, and ruining games for other players.* Explain to students that these are all examples of bad netiquette. Other examples include using bad words, sending spam, and stealing others people's stuff, like passwords and files. Using bad netiquette can make others feel sad and ruin their time online.

Activity

Give every student a copy of the examples of bad netiquette (attachment 1). Tell them that they are going to make their own netiquette nets to "catch" the examples of bad netiquette so they cannot ruin others' time online. Read aloud these directions as students create their nets.

1. Color and cut out the examples of bad netiquette.
2. Write *My Netiquette Net* at the top of the construction paper.
3. Spread glue on the construction paper and lay the yarn on top, creating a net.
4. Glue the examples of bad netiquette to the paper, trapping them in your net.

Explain to students that as long as they practice good netiquette, these bad behaviors will not escape their nets. Display the netiquette nets near the classroom computer(s) or send them home for students to place near their home computers as a reminder to practice good manners online.

Follow-Up

For printable netiquette activities, go to www.NetSmartzKids.org/freestuff. Have students complete these in class or send them home so they can continue learning about netiquette.

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Examples of bad netiquette

Name Calling

ALL CAPS

Bad Words

Ruining Games

Sending Spam

Stealing

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