Go Places Safely

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Overview

A virtual field trip helps children experience the power and excitement of the Internet by taking them places in cyberspace that might be impractical for a class to visit. They also learn that, just as when traveling in the face-to-face world, they should always take an adult with them when traveling in cyberspace.

Objectives

- Communicate that computers can be used to visit far-off places and learn new things
- Recall that cyberspace travel should include adult supervision

ISTE® National Technology Standards

- Performance Indicators # 3, 5, 6, 7 and 10

Site Preview

- Henson Robinson Zoo Virtual Tour
- Los Angeles Zoo
- World Association of Zoos and Aquariums
- New England Aquarium
- NY Philharmonic
- The Bronx Zoo
- New York City Zoo Animals
- NYC Museum of Modern Art

Online Resources

- Visit sites providing background information on Private Identity Information.

Materials

- Activity sheets (2)
- Magazines to cut up; scissors; paste; pencils and crayons
- Online computer access

Introduce (offline)

- Invite children to go on an imaginary field trip. Have them pantomime the adventure as you narrate. (For example: *Put on your jacket; climb on/off the bus; get your ticket punched and enter !*)

Teach 1 (online)

- Tell children another way to visit interesting places around the world is through the computer.
- Take students to www.becybersmart.org and click on the circle. Find the title of this lesson and open its links. Choose a site to explore with the class.
- Allow the children to decide where to go in the site and in what order. Guide them in making choices and read aloud any relevant text.

Teach 2 (offline)

- Distribute Activity Sheet 1.
- Invite students to imagine places some exciting places to visit in cyberspace. Children can either cut and paste magazine photos of interesting sites or draw their own pictures. *Hint:* If pictures of products are chosen, explain that stores can also be visited through the computer.
- Help children complete the sentence on the activity sheet.

Teach 3 (offline)

- Tell children to always take a grown-up when they go places on the computer, just as they do when going to the zoo or any other place.
- Distribute Activity Sheet 2 for children to color as they discuss the rule they just learned.

Close (offline)

- **Ask:** *How is using the computer to visit a place different from really going to the place ?* Discuss the ease and speed of traveling via the computer.
- **Ask:** *What same rule do we have for visiting a new place using a computer or in real life?* Direct the discussion to the need to travel with an adult whether online or on a real trip.

Extend (offline)

The following activity can be added for students who completed this lesson in a previous grade.

- Ask children to make a collage depicting the kinds of information that should be kept private. They can print their names and draw pictures or cut magazine photos to represent their homes. Explain that, just as they do not tell their name or address to strangers, they should not type such private information into the computer without the permission of their teacher or parent.

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