Welchester Elementary
September - Digital Footprints
We Define Who We Are!

We are learning about Digital Citizenship and learning to create and maintain one’s Digital Footprint & Identity. Our digital footprint, or online presence, has long-lasting implications, and it is important for children and young adults to realize that digital footprints are often public and potentially accessible by anyone. You can help your child(ren) learn how they can contribute to a positive digital reputation, both for themselves and for others.

As soon as you share the first photo of your child, you’re establishing their digital footprint. As kids get older and start creating their own content or engaging with others online, it’s important for them to understand the tracks they’re leaving behind and what those tracks might reveal. Parents can help guide kids toward creating the kind of footprint they can be proud of.

Grades K-5 Family Tips

◦ Be a role model. - Before you post a photo of your child on social media, ask if it’s OK to share. Not only will you give them control over their own digital footprint, you’ll also be showing them what you expect them to do with others’ photos.

◦ Use Privacy Settings - Together, go through all the settings on new apps to make sure you both know what information your kids are sharing. Especially in the beginning, it’s better to share very little.

◦ Question Everything - Before you sign school forms or register for a new online service for your kid, check the privacy policy to see what kind of information you’re giving the school or company and who they’re sharing it with. Sharing some data might be required, but you may be able to opt out of others. Talk with your kid about why it’s important to protect your personal data.

Our school is using our digital tool, Seesaw. It is a great tool for practicing digital citizenship. Students are using Seesaw to demonstrate their best work, share responsibly, and work with others online. Sign up with your child’s teacher to see all of the great work being accomplished in your child’s classroom!

Family Resources
www.commonsensemedia.org
www.jeffcpublicschools.org/academics/curriculum/technology_in_the_classroom/TechForEd
Digital Footprint & Identity

Digital citizenship: Thinking critically and using technology responsibly to learn, create, and participate.

Instructions
It's important to be aware of our digital footprint. Follow the footprints to see what you can learn about each person. Get one or more family members together to help. Don't forget to read the setup before doing the activity together!

Setup
Read aloud: What we do online leaves digital footprints that can give clues about what we do and who we are. We should be aware of the digital footprints we're leaving and the person that we appear to be to others online.

Activity
Read aloud: Let's follow the digital footprints, read the clues, and talk about what we learn.

Based on the footprints, what did you learn about this person? Discuss with each other.

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Learn more about how to define your digital footprint at commonsense.org/family-tips-on-digital-footprint!