

# Being Ethical Online

TOPIC: ETHICS

GRADES: K-2

LESSON DURATION: 30 MINUTES

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## Learning Outcomes:

- Students will define ethics as the ability to do what's right. Students will explain that ethics apply to the internet and use of devices.

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## Materials:

- <http://computerethicsinstitute.org/publications/tencommandments.html>
- [Example of a modified version](#)
- [ACM Code of Ethics](#)
- [The Center for Internet Security Code of Ethics](#)

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## Activities:

1. The teacher should lead a discussion on ethics beginning with a definition. Ethics is a set of moral principles that guide behavior. For this age group it can be defined as choosing to do what is right by following rules versus doing bad. The teacher can then give real life examples.
  - A. John sees Julie drop \$5 out of her book bag onto the ground. What is the right thing for John to do?
  - B. Matt is walking in the hallway and sees that someone left their phone on a ledge. What should Matt do?
  - C. Sally has her mom's cell phone for the day. In class, she sees Ryan do something embarrassing. She is tempted to take a picture. What should Sally do?
2. The teacher should then transition to the use of technology and explain that there are also rules for the proper use of technology. Today we are going to look at a set of guidelines that guide behavior and usage of computers.
3. Teacher should then lead students through a discussion of the Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics. Language of the principles should be modified as needed for this age group. The sources below are from the Computer Ethics Institute (original and modified)
  - A. <http://computerethicsinstitute.org/publications/tencommandments.html>
  - B. [Example of a modified version](#)
4. If the teacher would rather have a different variation of ethical standards, there is a list of ethics available at [The Center for Internet Security](#) or at the [ACM Code of Ethics](#).
5. If completed in grades 1 or 2, the teacher might consider having students develop their own set of classroom ethical standards. This could become a part of a social studies unit on the necessity of rules/laws in a society, home, school, etc.

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