Grade 5 Digital Citizenship Lesson

Purpose	Students will establish group norms to create a positive online community that promotes responsible and respectful digital behavior within their classroom.
Expectation	Students collaborate in creating a digital citizenship pledge outlining their collective social norms for exploring in and interacting with the digital world.
Students will be able to…	• establish expectations and norms for the group related to appropriate online behavior. • participate responsibly and respectfully in an online community. • collaborate on a classroom motto about digital citizenship.
Key Vocabulary	1. **community:** a group of people with a common background or shared interests 2. **expectation:** something one looks forward to or assumes will occur 3. **digital citizen:** a member of a worldwide community linked by the Internet 4. **pledge:** a promise, an oath, or a commitment 5. **motto:** a phrase that summarizes an organization or group's purpose or guiding principles
Intro – 5 min	**DEFINE** the Key Vocabulary term **community**. **ASK:** *What are some communities that you are a part of?* Sample responses: sports teams religious groups volunteer groups **DISCUSS** how your class also constitutes a community. **INVITE** students to explain the Key Vocabulary term **expectation**, then

	share the definition. **ASK:** *What expectations do we have for being a part of our classroom community?* Sample responses: • treat each other kindly • be respectful • follow the rules **ASK:** *Why do we want our communities to have these kinds of behavior expectations?* Encourage students to reflect upon how expectations let us all know how we are supposed to interact, work, and get along with one another. Without such guidelines, people might find it difficult to have that communal spirit. **DISCUSS** how participants in a community (e.g., your class) ought to agree on what's appropriate and what's expected to create a safe space (a shared set of norms and expectations) related to digital citizenship. In doing so, they will help build and maintain a culture of digital citizenship for your class's online communities.
Brainstorm (25 min)	**Ask:** *Are you part of any online communities? What kinds are you a part of?* Sample responses: • gaming communities • virtual worlds (e.g., Club Penguin) • school groups (e.g., Edmodo, a blog) **ASK:** *How are online communities different than offline communities? How are they similar?* Sample responses: You may not know everyone personally in an online community. People meet face to face offline, but people do not have in-person contact online. People in both communities usually have similar interests or goals. **ASK:** *What are some examples of how you can be a good member of one of these communities?* Sample responses:

	• Welcome all members. • Follow the rules or guidelines of the group/community. • Encourage others to follow the community's guidelines as well. **DEFINE** the Key Vocabulary term **digital citizen**. **EXPLAIN** that as members of online communities, your class is going to outline the kinds of expectations you all have for being good digital citizens. **DIVIDE** the class into small groups of two or three students. **DISTRIBUTE** copies of **We the Digital Citizens Pledge Student Handout,** one per small group. **REVIEW** the expectations outlined on the pledge as a whole group. **INSTRUCT** students to brainstorm for ten minutes in their small groups about additional expectations that they feel are important for an online community. Have them fill in the last two speech bubbles on the handout.
Classroom Collaboration (15 min)	**INSTRUCT** students to reassemble to share their ideas. As a whole group, decide on two additional expectations to add to the poster version of your classroom's **We the Digital Citizens Pledge**. **DEFINE** the Key Vocabulary word **motto**. **INSTRUCT** students to break into their small groups again to spend five minutes creating a motto that encapsulates the class's community pledge. You may want to share examples of popular mottos/slogans, such as Nike's "Just do it," Subway's "Eat fresh," and Apple's "Think different." **GUIDE** students to reassemble and share their ideas. As a group, decide on a motto for your class community. Add this motto on the poster of the classroom's **We the Digital Citizens Pledge**. **INVITE** each student to sign the **We the Digital Citizens Pledge** poster to indicate his/her commitment.

Wrap Up (10 min)	You may want to ask students to reflect in writing on one of the questions, using a journal or an online blog/wiki. **ASK:** *What is a pledge?* A pledge promises a commitment by the person agreeing to it. It helps build an agreed-upon sense of community. **ASK:** *What are you agreeing to in signing the **We the Digital Citizens Pledge**?* In signing the pledge, each student is agree to the stated terms and is committing to being an upstanding community member, a.k.a. a digital citizen. **ASK:** *Which part of the digital citizenship pledge is most meaningful to you?* Answers will vary. **Extension Activity** What other advice would they give to their peers? Have students create bookmarks that list their top-ten tips for behaving safely, responsibly, and respectfully online. Students can write their tips on a piece of cardstock, decorate it, and, with the help of a teacher, laminate it and then affix a tassel to it. Students can also create the bookmark digitally, using a word processing program (such as Microsoft Word) by setting up the page in landscape format and adding three columns. They then can add text, images, and art to each column to create three different bookmarks.
Extension	Have students fill out **Family Media Agreement** with a parent or family member. Families can make revisions to the document as they see fit. If all family members agree on the terms outlined in the document, they can sign it to make it official.