



October is... **National Cyber Security Awareness Month** and **National Bullying Prevention Month** for more see Page 2

**THIS PAGE DEVOTED TO ONE OF THE BIGGEST DC TOPICS**

# PHISHING

**Phishing** is a fraudulent attempt to obtain sensitive information such as usernames, passwords and credit card details, often for malicious reasons, by disguising itself as a trustworthy party.

Phishing is typically carried out by email or instant messaging, and it often directs users to enter personal information at a fake website, the look and feel of which are identical to the legitimate site, the only difference being the URL of the website.

## \*\* SOME INTERESTING NUMBERS \*\*

**94%** The Percentage of users who have been informed Phishing exists and how to avoid it.

**15%** The Percentage of users who are still getting caught clicking on links in Phishing emails.

**!** It is a little surprising that after all of the information that has been shared about detecting and avoiding suspicious emails that people still are tricked by phishing attacks

A Phishing Email is purposely created to deceive you into thinking that is real, and Phishers are getting more clever in making their emails look and feel legitimate. Some of them are very soPHISHticated. Don't Get Caught - Ask yourself "Does this email seem right?" - if in doubt call the Helpdesk.

## Detecting Phishing Email Attacks

Email has become a necessary part of all of our lives but sometimes the volume of email can become overwhelming. Most email systems have some kind of SPAM filtering that can weed out obvious scams and annoying ads but a lot still gets through and some of it can be malicious. The bottom line is that you should be suspicious of any email that is out of the ordinary or that you haven't requested.

Smart Questions to ask yourself before opening unsolicited email

1. Is the email from someone I know or a company that I do business with? **If not, be suspicious.**
2. Does the email address' domain name match their website or does it look correct? **If not, it may be from a spoofed account.**
3. Does the text of the email sound appropriate, or are there grammatical mistakes and misspellings? **If the email is badly or awkwardly written, it may be fake.**
4. Does the email want you to provide private personal details like usernames, passwords, or account numbers? **Why are they asking for this information. Do you really want to give it to them?**
5. Does the email provide a link to another site where it asks you to login? Is it pressuring you to act quickly? **Legitimate businesses respect your privacy and won't force you to act impulsively.**



**Sign Up to receive this newsletter in your email inbox**

Scan this QR code with your phone, or go to <http://go.gstboces.org/dcnews-signup> in your browser.

More Phishing information from the **DigitalGuardian** website - **Phishing Attack Prevention: How to Identify & Avoid Phishing Scams** - <http://go.gstric.org/202-phish1>

**Send comments, suggestions, and questions to [dc@gstboces.org](mailto:dc@gstboces.org)**  
Visit <http://dc.gstboces.org> **October 2018 - page 1 of 4**

## StaySafeOnline

Powered by: National Cyber Security Alliance

**National Cyber Security Awareness Month** is observed each year during October by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance.

Some of the topics from previous years have been, "Keep a Clean Machine", "Protect Your Personal Information", "Connect with Care", "Be a Good Online Citizen", and "Lock Down your Login".

The Themes for 2018 are:

Oct. 1-5: "Make Your Home a Haven for Online Safety"

Oct. 8-12: "Millions of Rewarding Jobs: Educating for a Career in Cybersecurity"

Oct. 15-19: "It's Everyone's Job to Ensure Online Safety at Work"

and Oct. 22-26: "Safeguarding the Nation's Critical Infrastructure"

More information on how to get involved visit the Stay Safe Online web site <http://go.gstric.org/202-ncsam>

### Digital Citizenship articles for Teachers

Common Sense celebrates Digital Citizenship Week - <http://go.gstric.org/202-week>

Are you R.E.A.D.Y. as a school to be good digital citizens? <http://go.gstric.org/202-ready>

Laying Down the Law on Bullying and Cyberbullying - <http://go.gstric.org/202-legal>

Cyber-Security Resources for Teachers and Students - <http://go.gstric.org/202-cyber>

Finding Balance Between Technology, Work, and Life - <http://go.gstric.org/202-balance>

### **The Heart of Digital Citizenship**

A TEDx talk by Anne Collier, noted journalist and Youth Advocate

A look at what digital citizenship is, the struggle it emerged from, and five ways adult society can make it engaging and useful to young citizens.

<http://go.gstric.org/202-collier>



## stopbullying.gov

As already noted **October is Bullying Prevention Month**. U. S. Dept. of Health and Human Services maintains the <http://www.stopbullying.org> web site which has lots of information about bullying in general and cyberbullying in particular.

The cyberbullying section has pages addressing bullying on social media and gaming sites, and has a list of tips for teachers to help identify a student who is being cyberbullied.

The resources section of the site contains a lot of downloadable resources such as fact sheets, infographics and research summaries. This section also includes a set of links to external sites with more information about cyberbullying and bullying prevention.

Visit the site at <http://go.gstric.org/202-bullying>

### **Do you have iPads in your Classroom?**

Apple has released a FREE set of iBooks called Everyone Can Create.



The set contains 4 iBooks and an iBook Teacher's guide and as I mentioned they are FREE.

The book shown here is the Video creation book. The other books are for Drawing, Photo, and Music creation.

Get them all FREE!

This link goes to a web page on Apple's web site about the series but you can download them directly in your iBooks application on your iPad.

<http://go.gstric.org/202-create>



## Facebook is so last year ...

What some new research on  
Teen Social Media use is saying

In September, Common Sense released its research report titled Social Media, Social Like: Teens Reveal Their experiences. This report takes a look into the social media habits of teenagers.

“Teens don’t value face-to-face communication with friends as much as they used to.”

Common Sense Media Research, 2018

View an article about the report.

<http://go.gstric.org/202-cs-research>

Some findings from the Research:

- Texting has risen above communicating in person as a mode of communication.
- Most teenagers have a smartphone.
- Facebook is out - Instagram and SnapChat are the ‘in’ platforms.
- Teens use of social media has increased and is still increasing.
- Many teens say that using social media has a positive effect on how they feel about themselves.
- Teens recognize that social media can be a distraction.
- Many teens have been exposed to hate speech and extremist viewpoints via social media.

## THE DIGITAL/DIVIDE :: IS THERE DIGITAL EQUITY IN YOUR SCHOOL/COMMUNITY?

In the U.S. we have hears a lot of news about the “haves” and “have nots” in our society. In many cases, the articles focus on the advantages of being a “have”, and what types of opportunities may be open to them, and conversely what opportunities may be missed by the “have nots”.

When it comes to technology the same principles apply. School have tried to make a difference by providing more high-speed internet connections and putting more devices in the hands of a lot of their students through one-to-one computing programs. Many teachers feel that their students have good internet access while they are at school, but it may not be the same story when they get home. The one-to-one programs certainly have helped by giving more children hands-on experiences in the classrooms but in some places they may need to be shared with other classes, and in some cases the computers/devices are not allowed to be taken home.

The problem may be amplified by the types of activities and assignments the students are asked to complete using technology. Are they merely taking notes and doing electronic worksheets instead of pencil and paper? Or are they be challenged to do complex problem-solving, designing advanced presentations, working with digital audio and video editing, and writing code to control their devices? Are they being exposed to cutting edge technologies like 3-D imaging and printing, augmented reality and virtual reality situations and simulations, and are they working with robotics?

Digital Equity is important to ensure that all of our children have digital access and are able to do the types of tasks that will allow them to build incredible future lives and careers. They may even invent jobs that haven’t been thought of yet. All children deserve to have the best of what the technological world can offer them.

**YOU CAN BECOME ACTIVE IN YOUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY! ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT KIND OF ACTIVITIES YOUR CHILDREN ARE BEING ASKED TO DO WITH THEIR TECHNOLOGY IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL. IF THERE ARE AREAS THAT YOU FIND ARE NOT BEING ADDRESSED - ASK THE POWERS THAT BE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THEM.**

<http://go.gstric.org/202-equity>

“Schools will say that digital citizenship education is a parent's responsibility, and parents will say that it's the school's responsibility. My response is to say, Well get over it, it's a community responsibility.”

Susan M. Bearden, CIO at Consortium for School Networking [cosn.org](http://cosn.org)



## Is someone you are talking to online is actually trying to take advantage of you?

1. Online Predators Sound Nice	Online predators actually sound very nice online. The most dangerous ones don't sound fake at all, and have real conversations with teenagers in a non-threatening environment.
2. Online Predators Want to Have Conversations in Private	Online abusers are always looking to have one-on-one conversations in places where no one can see or hear what they're saying.
3. Online Predators Ask for Personal Information	They want to know your full name, your birthday, your address, and where you go school. Any information they can use in for future conversations.
4. Online Predators Try to Make You Feel Special	They constantly tell you how important you are to them. They will throw you compliments about how smart, funny, and/or beautiful you are.
5. Online Predators Try to Turn You against Other People	In an effort to value your relationship with them, they will devalue your relationships with other people.
6. Online Predators Offer You Gifts	Strangers may try to lure you with presents or money. If someone offers your presents or money, they are always expecting something in return.
7. Online Predators Make Uncomfortable Comments	Once you start having conversations with these online criminals, they start to feel more comfortable telling you what they really want.
8. Online Predators Ask You to Lie	When it comes to your online relationship with a predator, they ask you to keep your relationship secret from your parents and/or adults who are important to you.
9. Online Predators Pressure You into Meeting in Person	Ideally, they'd like to meet you as soon as possible, but they know that they have to be very sneaky about how to meet you.
10. Online Predators Will Make You Think What They're Doing Is Normal	Don't let them convince you that what they're doing is okay. You're not in the wrong if they're doing something that's making you feel uncomfortable.

Source: [20 Early Signs to Recognize Online Predators from Online Sense - Your Guide for Internet Safety](http://go.gstric.org/202-predators)  
Learn more signs by reading the article at <http://go.gstric.org/202-predators>

## Creative Corner

### A PROJECT FOR OCTOBER 2018

Task: Create an Image about DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP that is suitable for posting to our instagram feed at <http://go.gstric.org/202-instagram>

Description: Using a graphics software program on your computer (or online), create an original image file that is 1024 pixels square and is saved in .jpg or .png format. You may use royalty-free images, or take your own photos (please no copyrighted images), or you may choose to paint your own design using digital drawing and painting tools to create your art. Your work should feature a positive message about digital citizenship.

Submit your image to [dc@gstboces.org](mailto:dc@gstboces.org) and if meets the criteria, we will share it on instagram and on our blog at <http://go.gstric.org/202-blog>.

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If you don't have graphics software on your computer and you would like to do the project any way there are several sites that will let you do in your browser online for free. One such site is **Adobe Spark**.



Adobe Spark has three versions **Spark Page** for web pages, **Spark Video** for digital storytelling with audio and video, and **Spark Post** for graphics.



Spark Post

<http://go.gstric.org/202-spark>



## Digital Citizen's Guide on How to Spot

# Fake News

Fake News contains **FALSE HEADLINES** and **DELIBERATE MISINFORMATION** and it is flooding our social media and news feeds. Here are some tips to help you separate the real information from the Fake News.

### Identify the News Outlet

The Wall Street Journal and CNN are examples of news outlets. If you haven't heard of the news outlet, search online for more information about it.

### Identify the Author

Fake news articles often don't include author names. If included, search the author's name online to see if he or she is well known and respected.

### Read more than the headline!

Often the headline is intended to be controversial and attention grabbing. Check the rest of the article. If the article has misspelled words, words in ALL CAPS, poor grammar, or lots of "!!!!," it's probably unreliable.

### Analyze Sources and Quotes

Consider the article's sources and who is quoted in the text of the article. Fake news articles often cite anonymous sources, unreliable sources, or no sources at all.

Does the article include and identify reliable sources?

Do some research. Do the sources have a biased point of view?

### Take tweets with a grain of salt

Let's face anyone can tweet anything about anyone at any time. There is no validation or verification. Lots of fake news gets spread via tweeting. Don't fall into the trap.

### Don't be confused by satire

It has to be said that there are some websites that post false stories to be funny or satirical. These sites do not expect anyone to take them seriously. [theonion.com](http://theonion.com) is an example of such a site.

### Turn to Fact Checkers

When all else fails, you can turn to some of the well-known fact checking sites on the Internet.

Do the fact checkers say the news story is true?

[FactCheck.org](http://FactCheck.org), [snopes.com](http://snopes.com), [PolitiFact.com](http://PolitiFact.com) and [TruthOrFiction.com](http://TruthOrFiction.com) are widely trusted fact-checking websites.

Give them a try and see what they say about the new story.



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email us at [dc@gstboces.org](mailto:dc@gstboces.org) visit our website at <http://dc.gstboces.org>

# Who's afraid of Digital Citizenship?



DC Bear says “No one should be afraid of Digital Citizenship. Good Digital Citizens treat everyone with respect online and in real life. They also protect themselves and others by letting adults know if something bad happens online.”

Ask your teacher for more information about Digital Citizenship



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