Oxford Sparks



Key Stage 3 – #nofilter

Notes for teachers

At a glance

Scientists at the University of Oxford are investigating different ways that information that we share on social media sites can be used by others. Sometimes the information can be useful, for instance providing information on an unfolding event, but it could be used for more sinister purposes.

In this activity students explore how stuff we post on social media may be giving out more information than we intended. Students play a game where they try to find out where someone will be at a given time based on a set of fictional social media posts.



Learning Outcomes

- Students can describe ways that social media posts might reveal information about their users
- Students can use their knowledge of social media to suggest ways to reduce the information that they reveal about themselves or others

Each student will need

- Copy of the student worksheet
- Game information cards (see main activity section for more details)
- Clue tokens (see main activity section for more details)



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Possible Lesson Activities

1. Starter activity

- Show the class the animation 'Keeping Social Media Social'
- Ask students to discuss in small groups what they like and dislike about social media
- Choose volunteers to share some of the ideas that they have discussed

2. Main activity: 'The game is afoot'

- You will need to read the separate game instruction sheet before the lesson
- Divide the students into groups of 3 or 4
- Give each group the student sheet for '#nofilter' and ask them to read it
- Check the students understand what they need to do and how the activity works
- Run the game according to the instructions

3. Plenary

- Watch you tube video 'Social media experiment' (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5P_0s1TYpJU</u>) or clip in 'weblinks' below
- As a class discuss whether they were surprised about the information that you can find out about total strangers. Why might this be a bad thing? Are there any advantages?
- Get each student to write down one way that they could reduce the amount of information that someone they didn't know could find out about them online

Weblinks

- Digital Wildfire resources on TES <u>https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/digital-wildfire-digital-citizenship-and-social-media-resource-pack-ks4-5-11313686</u>
- Oxford Sparks: Keeping Social Media Social Animation -<u>http://www.oxfordsparks.ox.ac.uk/content/keeping-social-media-social</u>
- Alternative 'mind reading' clip using social media <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7pYHN9iC9I</u>

