
RISKS OF SPYWARE

i-SAFE Lesson Plan

Suggested Grade Levels – Middle Grades

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- understand the term spyware and the types of programs it applies to
- understand the security risks associated with downloading items online
- understand how personal information may be compromised via spyware

Enrichment Goal

i-SAFE enrichment activities are designed so that they can be implemented by students. Provide your students with the necessary reference materials included with this lesson plan and guidance on how they can complete this activity. Suggestions include getting support from an adult advisor, school club, student council, technology team, etc. i-SAFE also offers a wide range of online support for students who register (free of charge) at www.isafe.org, including the i-Mentor Training Network videos.

In this lesson, learners will develop Public Service Announcements (PSA) to inform others about spyware. The enrichment activity will provide guidance to broadcast one or more of the PSAs at school or through local news media.

Materials / Preparation

- online access to the i-SAFE assessments, if appropriate for this lesson
- a copy of the reference page for each student
- a copy of the activity page for each student
- student registration in mentor program at www.isafe.org

Pre Assessment

If beginning the i-SAFE program with this lesson, administer the pre assessment online at www.isafe.org by clicking on the link, Assessments, prior to the lesson. To verify School ID#, login at isafe.org, go to the “My Info” page and select “Find your school ID”.

Lesson Procedures

All students participating in the i-SAFE curriculum are considered to be mentors. If they haven't done so already, have students enroll online by clicking on “Create Account” at www.isafe.org to take full advantage of the support and incentives offered. This may be done at any time during the lessons, or students may complete this registration at home. If you would like to register your students yourself simply go to <http://www.isafe.org/teachermentorprogram> and fill out the information for your students and email to outreach@isafe.org. Your students will then be enrolled to receive information about sharing internet safety with other students and will be registered to participate in contests to win prizes.

Discussion

- Ask students if they have ever downloaded anything from online (games, papers, music, software, etc).
- Ask students if they have ever read a disclosure/privacy statement from an online website. Did they understand what they were reading?
- Ask students if they know the terms spyware and adware – and to self define them.

Activity

- Pass out the reference page.
- Break students into small groups.
- Have students read through the information and develop a list of types of websites that might install spyware on users computers.
- Meet back as a large group and discuss the lists.
- Discuss possible ways to prevent or safeguard against the risks of spyware.
- Ask for examples from students of ways, if any, that they already deal with spyware

Peer-to-Peer Activity

- Allow students to meet back in their small groups. (Groups of 2-3 may work best. Or have students work individually)
- Hand out the activity page to students.
- Have each student group develop a Public Service Announcement informing others on possibility of spyware and adware bundled into downloads.
- Share PSAs among class.

Concluding Discussion

- Review what spyware is and the necessity for precautions when downloading items online.
- Discuss why it is important to discuss cyber security issues with others and how to be proactive in dealing with it.
- Ask students who they think would benefit from this information and why.
- Discuss ways to broadcast the PSAs outside the classroom.
- Lead into a discussion about the Enrichment Activity.

Enrichment Activity

Youth who participate in activities to share what they have learned about Internet safety are more likely to practice safe habits online.
Additional lessons and support for students, teachers, and parents on Internet safety topics are available from i-SAFE Inc. www.isafe.org.

Broadcast Public Service Announcements

Students will find broadcast one or more of the PSAs developed in during the lesson over the school's public address system, during assemblies, and/or school news broadcasts, or videotape for distribution.

Student instructions:

1. Find a Media Outlet – will it be at your school or in the larger community?
 - Brainstorm—where can PSAs be played in your school or in your city?

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- Some possibilities: over the school PA system, at assemblies, over the radio, on a local news station, over the PA at a baseball game. What new ones can you come up with?
2. If going outside of the school, contact the media outlets to develop a cooperative agreement for broadcasting the PSAs.
 - Contact the media outlet before preparing your PSA to get their specific requirements regarding length, format, etc.
 - Be prepared on your topic so you can “sell” them on the idea over the phone

Broadcast/Deliver PSA

- Based upon media outlet—select media type—audio, video, or live
- Fine tune your PSA – do you need to make any changes or final edits for the selected broadcast format? (i.e. audio, video, etc.)
- Record the PSA (unless doing it live)
- Provide PSA through the selected media outlet.
- Let i-SAFE know about your success. Email outreach@isafe.org.

Post Assessment

Administer the post assessment online at www.isafe.org by clicking on the link, Assessments, if this is your last lesson for i-SAFE. To verify School ID#, login at isafe.org, go to the “My Info” page and select “Find your school ID”.

Contact us

- We’d like to hear from you! E-mail teachers@isafe.org to share any unique ideas and/or experiences you had during implementation of this lesson.
- Students who participate in enrichment activities may be eligible for i-SAFE’s monthly Most Valuable Mentor award – let us know about deserving students.

Facts about Spyware

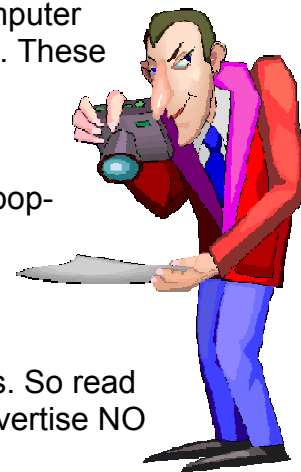
Facts about Spyware

Have you noticed that your computer and/or Internet connection is running slowly, or that you are getting lots of pop-ups? These are signs that your computer might have a spyware program running on it.

Spyware are programs that are typically loaded onto your computer without your knowledge when you download another program. These programs gather information about you and report it back to a monitoring program – using your Internet bandwidth to do so.

Spyware can monitor a user's web activity, scan files, create pop-up ads, log keystrokes, change the default page on the web browser, and even gather personal information such as password and credit card information.

Sometimes spyware is listed as “adware” in disclosure notices. So read carefully before downloading! In fact many downloads can advertise NO Spyware – but that doesn't mean you aren't getting adware!



Guard Against Spyware!

Taking steps against spyware will help to keep your computer safe and secure and keep your personal information private. Follow these 4 steps to computer security and protection:

Step 1 – use a **firewall**

Step 2 – **update your operating system** regularly

Step 3 – use **virus protection software**

Step 4 – use **spyware protection software**

Remember that virus and spyware protection software will only work if you use it. Run a scan regularly.

Public Service Announcements - PSA

Grab people's attention and educate them at the same time!

Your Goal

Explore the safety issues involved with spyware and develop a public service announcement to educate others about how to defend your computer against spyware attacks.

The PSA can be audio, video, or live. Part of the project is locating a broadcast medium.

Materials/Preparation

- Background knowledge on spyware and other cyber security risks
- Computer with Internet access (recommended)
- Materials of choice for developing PSA (video, audio, etc.)
- Obtain cooperation with school media outlet, radio, TV, or other broadcast medium

Issues

Take a minute and think about the following before you decide how to present your information.

- How can Internet Safety PSAs be of service to others?
- What information do you consider "critical" when it comes to information about spyware.
- Who is this information "critical" for?
- How can you grab people's attention and make them listen to your important message?
- Based on what you know about spyware, what information will be most beneficial?

Preparation

1. Go to www.isafe.org and review the celebrity PSAs
2. Find a Media Outlet – will it be at your school or in the larger community?
3. Brainstorm—where can PSAs be played in your school or in your city?
 - Some possibilities: over the school PA system, at assemblies, over the radio, on a local news station, over the PA at a baseball game. What new ones can you come up with?
4. If going outside of the school, contact the media outlets to develop a cooperative agreement for broadcasting the PSAs.
 - Contact the media outlet before preparing your PSA to get their specific requirements regarding length, format, etc.
 - Be prepared on your topic so you can "sell" them on the idea over the phone

Develop and Deliver PSA

1. Based upon media outlet—select media type—audio, video, or live
2. Write the script that pertains to your topic and presentation style (i.e. audio, video, etc.)
3. Record the PSA (unless doing it live)
4. Edit the PSA with original music and titles. (i-SAFE provides a free library of legal music and graphics at www.isafe.org.)
5. Provide PSA through the selected media outlet.
6. Let i-SAFE know about your success. Email outreach@isafe.org.



www.isafe.org

~ Send a copy of your own PSA to i-SAFE so we can hear about your creativity. Your PSA may be used in future T-Kits! ~