
IDENTITY THEFT

i-SAFE Lesson Plan

Suggested Grade Level – High School

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- understand the concept of identity theft
- understand the security risks associated with revealing private information online
- develop an action plan for dealing with identity theft that can be shared with parents

Enrichment Goal

i-SAFE enrichment activities are designed to 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.

Learners will interact in the classroom environment through group discussion and creation of identity theft prevention tips and action plans for worst-case scenario. Learners will be provided with materials to engage in an enrichment activity, which includes hosting an i-PARENT Program to inform parents about the online risks for identity theft.

Materials/Preparation

- access to research materials
- a copy of reference and activity pages for each student
- materials as selected for the presentation portion of the lesson
- i-SAFE i-PARENT CD (see instructions for obtaining it at no cost at start of lesson)
- online i-MENTOR registration (each student) to receive supporting Student Toolkit materials

Pre-Assessment

If beginning the i-SAFE program with this lesson, administer the pre-assessment online at www.isafe.org by clicking on “Assessments” prior to the lesson. To verify school ID number, log in at www.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 i-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; then e-mail to outreach@isafe.org. Your students will then be enrolled, will receive information about sharing Internet safety with other students, and will be registered to participate in contests to win prizes.

*****Teacher Note:** Students will engage in an activity that will produce material to be used in a presentation for their parents on how to safeguard against identity theft. The student activity guide provides information about how to receive additional support materials from i-SAFE Inc. Students can go to the “Kids and Teens” section at www.isafe.org and access the i-MENTOR Training Network’s i-PARENT Program training module video.

You may want to obtain the parent presentation materials prior to lesson implementation. To do so, log on or “Create an Account” at www.isafe.org. Click on “Implementation Plan,” and select “Parent Presentation.” This material is available free to the public.

Discussion

- Ask students how much time they spend online.
- Ask students if they have ever visited a Web site asking for personal information.
- Ask students if they frequently reveal things like name, birth date, etc., online.
- Ask students if they have ever bought items online.
- Ask students if they know the term identity theft—and to define it.
- Ask students to discuss how identity theft can affect a person. Who is most vulnerable?

Peer-To-Peer Activity

- Break students into small groups.
- Have students attempt to answer the following questions in their groups:
 - What are steps you can take to protect your personal information?
 - If you discover your identity has been compromised or a credit card number used illegally, what should you do and who you should contact?
 - What steps can you take to be prepared just in case something happens?
- Meet back as a large group and go over discussion results.
- Pass out the reference page to students.
- Read and discuss reference page as a class.

Concluding Discussion

As a class, discuss the following:

- Based on what they have learned, what types of things are important for their peer group to know, and also for their parents to know, about preventing identity theft?
- What should they know in case identity theft does happen?
- 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. at www.isafe.org.

Students will engage in an activity that will produce material that can be used in a presentation for their parents on how to safeguard against identity theft. The student activity guide provides information about how to receive additional support materials from i-SAFE America. Students can go to the Kids and Teens section (X-Block) at www.isafe.org and access the i-Mentor Training Network’s *i-Parent Program* training module video.

The training module provides background information on the importance of providing this type of presentation as well as the steps to follow and materials to download.

- Provide students with the Handout: Parent Presentation.
- Inform students that they will be hosting a parent night (or open house for community members) to inform them of important Internet safety issues.

Use the Handout as a guide – Student Instructions:

Topic Choice

Think about what you know about Internet safety topics and choose one to raise awareness about it to others. Parents are sometimes the last to know about how Internet safety issues can affect them and their young children – they are at risk! Based on your community, what topic do you think will be most beneficial? Possible topics include:

- Internet safety Overview
- Predators
- Cyber Security
- Cyber Bullying

Training

1. Go to www.isafe.org and log in
2. If not registered, click on “Create an Account”
3. Access the i-Mentor Training Network
4. Select Module: Parent Presentation
5. Watch the training video – take notes
6. Click on the Mentor Menu

Submit the Mentor Menu

1. Select i-Parent Program
2. Fill in remaining information about your event
3. Click “Submit” at the bottom of the page

Download Materials

1. Return to the i-Mentor Training Network page
2. Click on “Materials Download”
3. Select the i-Parent Toolkit and other materials you need for your presentation
4. Download and print materials

Review your Materials

Become familiar with the i-Parent program

Go over the PPT presentation you have selected

Design your Parent Night -

- What should parents know in this day and age about the online activities of youth?
- What information do you consider “critical” when it comes to Internet Safety and Security for parents to know?
- What information can make an impact on how parents participate online?
- What information can make an impact on how parents allow their children to participate online?

Choose a Venue

Choose a date, time, and location

Get permission from your school administration if it will be held at the school. Some ideas include your school library or auditorium, a local library, etc.

Lock it in.

Final Preparations

Advertise the event by sending out flyers, hanging posters, etc.

Prepare for the event.

Host the Presentation

Arrive early to set up for presentation.
Ask attendees to sign a sign-in sheet.

Let i-SAFE Know

- Briefly document your success with this project. Include date and location the work was done and email to outreach@isafe.org.
- *FAX in your attendance forms to i-SAFE: (760) 603-8382.*
- i-SAFE can help verify service learning hours/credits if needed.

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”.

Related Lessons

The i-SAFE lesson on Privacy and the Internet (webcast) provides additional related information.

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.

Identity Theft

According to the Federal Trade Commission, there were nearly 10 million identify-theft victims in 2003.
It's the fastest growing crime in the United States.

Identity Theft: Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information, such as your name, social security number, credit card number, or other identifying information, without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. Identity theft is a serious crime.

People whose identities have been stolen can spend months or years—and their hard-earned money—cleaning up the mess thieves have made of their good name and credit record. In the meantime, victims may lose job opportunities or personal property, may have loans refused, or even get arrested for crimes they didn't commit.

Think about it:

Who is at risk for identity theft?

What online activities put you most at risk for identity theft?

Identity-Theft Protection Tips

Identity-theft protection tips can be used to help you recognize if you are at risk and how to respond appropriately.

- **Monitor your credit report**
Even teenagers should be aware of their credit reports. Credit reporting agency information is on the Internet and you can obtain a copy of your report at no cost. Obtain your credit report at least once a year, and look carefully for any unusual or fraudulent activity.
- **Beware of all requests for your personal information online.**
Criminals copy logos perfectly to trick you. Legitimate companies *never* send unsolicited requests for personal information. Never give out personal information unless *you* initiate the correspondence.
- **Shred documents before putting them in the trash.**
Bank statements, credit card offers, utility bills, and documents with social-security or account numbers can be retrieved by ID thieves from your trash. So make a habit of tearing them up before tossing them.
- **Notify law enforcement of “dumpster diving.”**
Identify thieves rummage through all sorts of garbage looking for unshredded documents that contain personal information to sell to other expert criminals.
- **Place a fraud alert on your credit**
If you have lost your wallet, purse, social security card, or passport, or suspect you are a potential victim of ID theft, contact, or have an adult help you contact each of the three credit bureaus for assistance.

Remember the 4 Rs

RECOGNIZE techniques used by identity thieves to obtain people's personal information.

REFUSE to provide personal information by phone or e-mail if you didn't initiate the communication.

RESPOND assertively by contacting the three U.S. credit bureaus and putting a fraud alert on your credit.

REPORT any unusual, suspicious, or fraudulent activities to an adult or law-enforcement authorities.

Identity Theft

Student Activity Guide

In addition to the reference page, use other resources such as the Federal Trade Commission <http://onguardonline.gov/shopping.html> to research identity theft.

In your groups, design a checklist to guide you in the process of protecting your identity if you ever think it might have been stolen.

Some items not to forget:

- Contact Credit Card Companies
- Contact Consumer Reporting Agencies: Examples: Transunion, Equifax, and Credit Data Services

What else can you come up with? Make sure to put it in a logical order!

Parent Presentation

Make parents aware of identity theft issues

Chances are you aren't as likely to be a victim of identity theft as your parents are when they are online - especially now that you've been educated! Think about it – you are in a better position than most to educate parents on the issues you've been learning about. We'll help you plan out a parent night so that you can educate your parents.

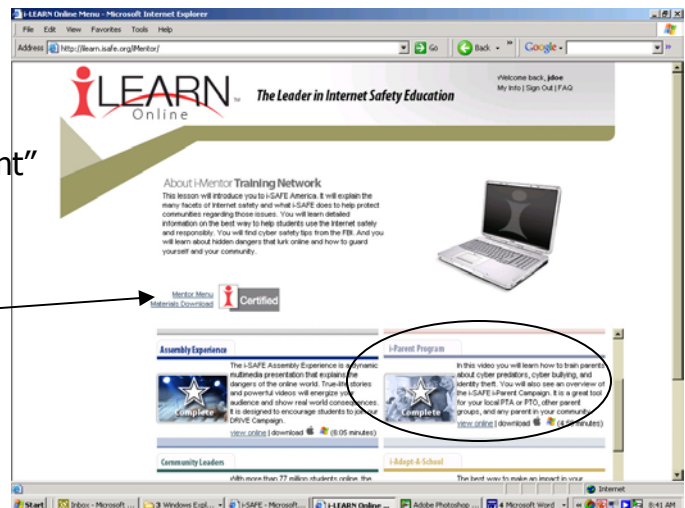
Get Started

i-SAFE has some pretty amazing materials available to you as you plan your Parent Night at the i-Mentor Training Network.

- You can watch a video just for students and receive training on how to reach out and train parents.
- You can download free presentation and other materials to use at your event.

Training

1. Go to www.isafe.org and log in
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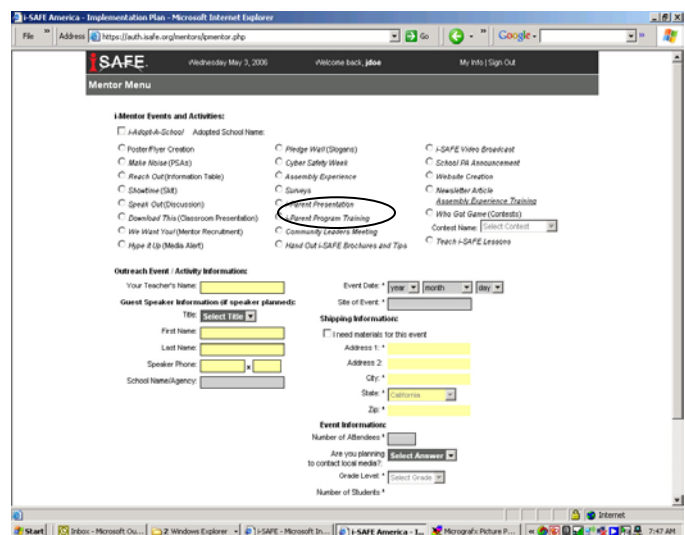


Submit the Mentor Menu

1. Select i-Parent Program
2. Fill in remaining information about your event
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Download Materials

1. Return to the i-Mentor Training Network page
2. Click on "Materials Download"
3. Select the i-Parent Toolkit and other materials you need for your presentation
4. Download and print materials





Review your Materials

- Become familiar with the i-Parent program
- Go over the PPT presentation you have selected
- Design your Parent Night -
 - What information do you consider “critical” when it comes to Identity Theft and Security for parents to know?
 - What information can make an impact on how parents participate online?
- Develop content ideas
 - Use the student activity page and content learned from this lesson to start to develop content for your presentation.
 - Meet in small groups. (Groups of 2-3 may work best. Or have students work individually)
 - Develop an action plan – a checklist of what to do if one suspects their identity is stolen.
 - Share checklists. At your parent night, hand out copies of your checklist so parents will know what to do if they are ever a victim of identity theft!
 - Develop an opportunity to share lists and information on identity theft with parents. Use the following directions to host a parent night or similar event.

Choose a Venue

- Choose a date, time, and location
- Schedule your presentation at an organized gathering of parents: PTA meeting, open house, etc.
- Or find a venue to host your parent presentation as an independent activity. Some ideas include your school library or auditorium, a local library, etc.
- Get permission from your school administration if it will be held at the school. Some ideas include your school library or auditorium, a local library, etc.
- Lock it in.

Final Preparations

- Advertise the event by sending out flyers, hanging posters, etc.
- Prepare for the event. Make sure you will have:
 - All technical materials needed (presentation equipment, tables, chairs, etc.)
 - A sign in table
 - Any guest speakers desired

Host the Presentation

- Arrive early to set up for presentation.
- Ask attendees to sign a sign-in sheet.

Let i-SAFE Know

- Briefly document your success with this project. Include date and location the work was done and email to outreach@isafe.org.
- i-SAFE can help verify service learning hours/credits if needed.