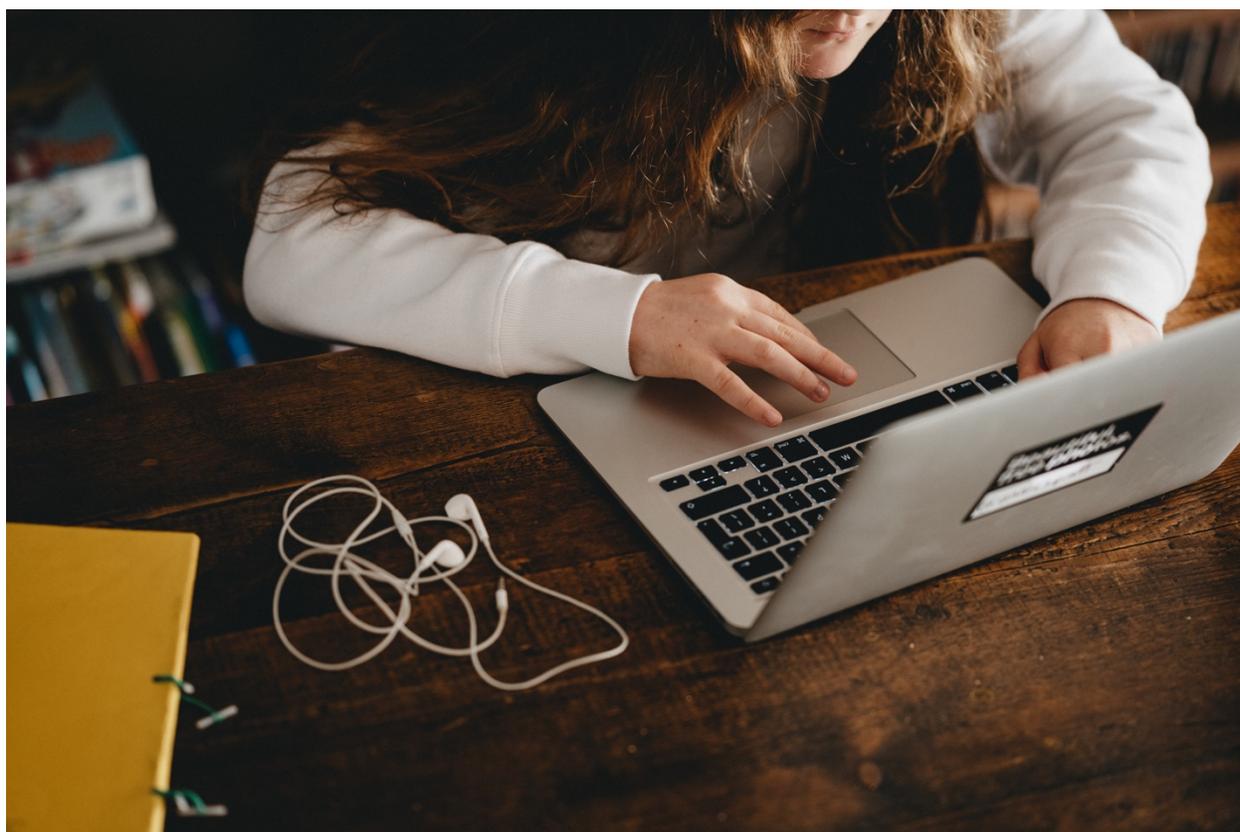




DIGITAL  
RESPONS  BILITY

EDUCATE • INFORM • EMPOWER



## How To Teach Digital Citizenship: A New Approach

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Our communities are immersed in tech, including and especially students at all grade levels. We see that they must navigate the online world we have come together to create but need to know how to do so with safety and confidence. We need to build knowledge, change attitude and improve skills.

## FOCUS ON THE WHOLE CHILD

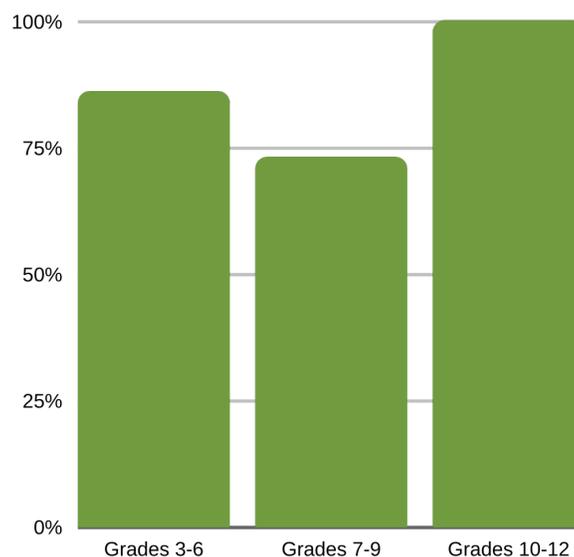
Our curriculum and units are dedicated to cover all aspects of digital citizenship and has been proven to keep kids safe online and help them feel empowered in the online space they occupy.

- **Teaching digital citizenship is not a one-and-done class or assembly.** Recent studies have shown that an assembly does not impact behavior or attitude (Purtle & Roman, 2015)
- **Our curriculum helps to influence long-term behavior and attitude towards tech use.** Through our use of research and adherence to skill development tools, students feel empowered online after our courses.
- **Utilizing SEL and Digital Citizenship Educator Training, educators can effectively teach digital citizenship in their classrooms.**

## STUDENTS WANT TO LEARN ABOUT DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Most students find at the end of our course that they want to learn even more about digital citizenship (*fig. 1*). From comments they leave with us, they “liked learning about appropriate sites” (6<sup>th</sup> grade female) and felt that “the program was helpful” (6<sup>th</sup> grade female).

*Fig 1. Percentages of students who wanted to learn more about digital citizenship from over 3000 students surveyed from January – March 2020.*



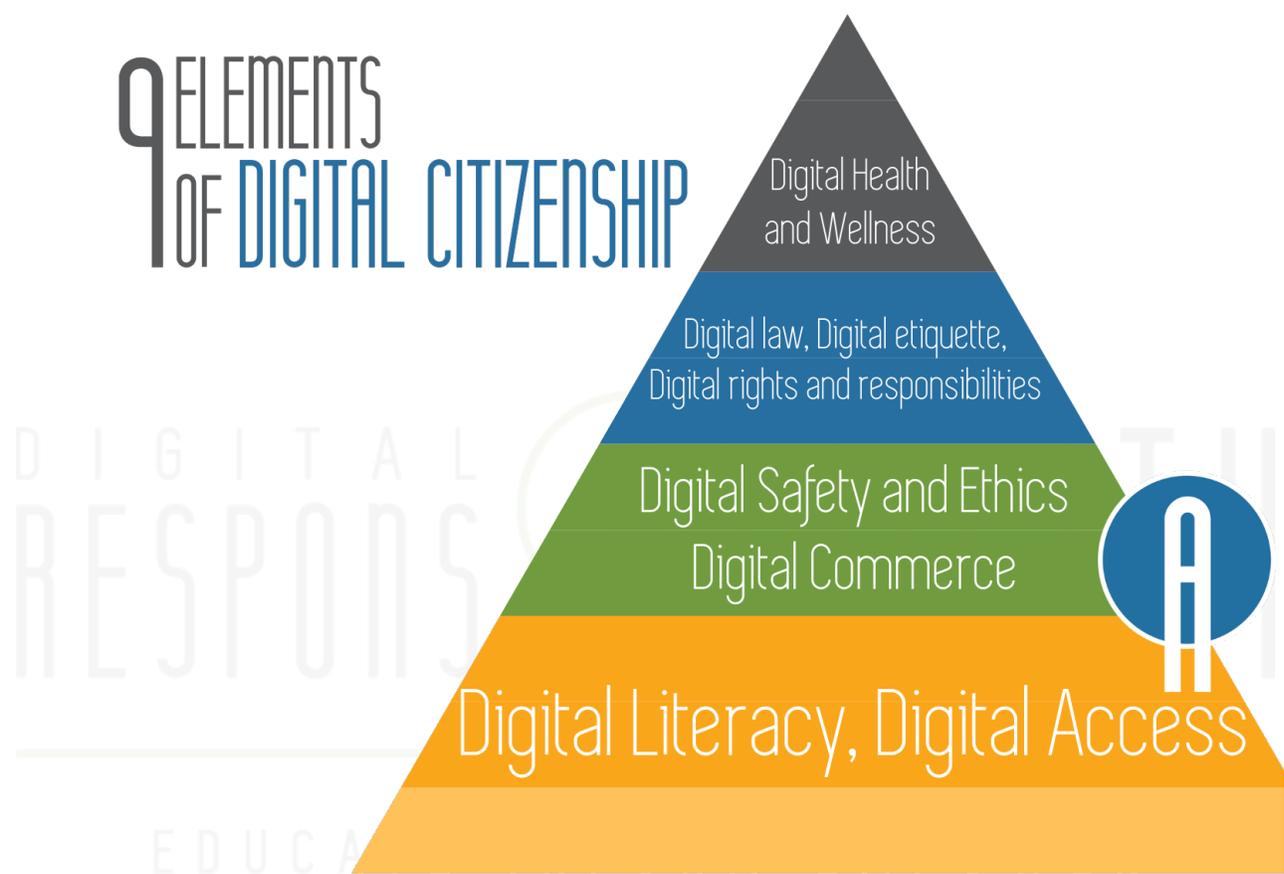
## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential learning has been shown to improve long-term learning. (Jiusto & Dibiasio, 2006) When we teach, we make sure it's as interactive as possible through gamification, hands-on activities, and in peer groups.

## ENCOURAGING SELF-EFFICACY AND S.E.L.

It's important that children see how to transfer the in-person SEL skills to the online. Our instruction utilizes the principles of teaching self-efficacy and SEL, teaching students in an environment they feel safe in and where they can interact with their peers.

*Fig 2. 9 Elements of Digital Citizenship*



*Each of the aspects of digital citizenship work with each other as we teach and build digitally healthy humans.*

## About Digital Respons-Ability

We are a research-based provider of digital citizenship education. Our program provides Digital Citizenship and Digital Parenting classes to schools, parents and organizations. Digital Respons-Ability's curriculum is used by the United States Federal Government in classrooms around the globe.

## References

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Zins, J. E., Bloodworth, M. R., Weissberg, R. P., & Walberg, H. J. (2007). The Scientific Base Linking Social and Emotional Learning to School Success. *Journal of Educational and Psychological Consultation*, 17(2-3), 191-210. doi:10.1080/10474410701413145