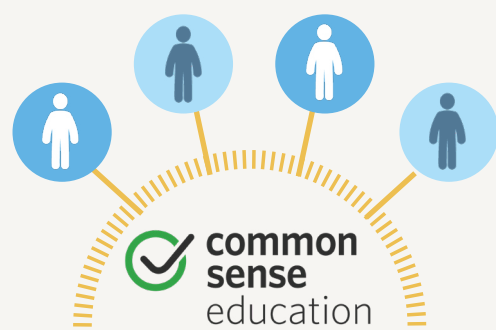




Becoming Digital Citizens

■ WHAT IS IT?

Common Sense's award-winning [Digital Citizenship Curriculum](#) offers grade-specific lesson plans and teaching materials to help kids learn how to excel in the digital age. The curriculum features three teaching units for grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 and four units for grades 9-12. Each unit consists of five lessons that address topics such as [news and media literacy](#), [internet privacy](#) and [cyberbullying](#). In 2016, the Digital Citizenship Curriculum served more than 18 million students.



■ WHO'S BEHIND IT?

Founded by California philanthropist [Jim Steyer](#) in 2002, Common Sense is a U.S. [nonprofit](#) that engages in research, education, and advocacy focused on kids' media consumption and literacy. Its [Common Sense Education](#) program manages a range of initiatives, including the Digital Citizenship Curriculum, which is based on research by [Dr. Howard Gardner](#) and Harvard University's [The GoodPlay Project](#).

■ DOES IT WORK?

Common Sense Education has [recognized](#) more than 12,500 teachers, 2,100 schools, and 94 school districts. The program has received honors from the [Digital Innovation in Learning Awards](#) and [Tech & Learning](#), among others. Common Sense's [annual report](#) says the curriculum was taught in more than half of U.S. schools during the 2016-17 school year. (New state laws, such as [Washington's](#), bundle school requirements for media literacy, internet safety and digital citizenship.)



■ HOW TO DO IT

Common Sense's Digital Citizenship Curriculum features detailed [unit descriptions](#), [games and interactives](#), learning assessments, companion videos, and other teaching materials -- all of which are free to access and use. (Its [online courses](#) for educators require a fee.) Common Sense also hosts a [Facebook Group](#) where educators can share resources, experiences and advice. The group has more than 5,600 members and receives about six new comments and posts per day.

