

Lesson Four: Copyright, Citation and Plagiarism

Lesson Overview: In this lesson the students will learn what they can and cannot do with resources they find on the Internet. They will learn what copyright law means, they will learn when and how they can use material covered by copyright law and how they should include citations when they do.

Resources or Materials Needed:

- Internet ready computers. The lesson is based on Microsoft Internet Explorer.
- interactive whiteboard and projector
- Citation Creation Homework (see list of materials).

Lesson Objective: This is the fourth lesson in a series that will achieve performance objective number one, “Given a multiple choice test using questions designed to test the student’s knowledge of basic Internet concepts and ability to perform key tasks associated with the Internet, for example what the Internet is, what a browser is, what a search engine does, how to bookmark a website, how to download files and images, what a U.R.L. is, how copyright law works and how to include citations. Students will need to score at least 80% to meet the standard required and earn their Internet Driving Permit”.

Time: Approximately one hour

Preinstructional activities: Remind the students that they have learned what the Internet is, how to get it set up and how to start finding information. This lesson is all about what they are allowed to do with the information once they find it. Tell them an anecdote to get them thinking. The one I use is a true story that happened at my school. A teacher had the students in her class write the pages and draw the pictures for a class book, which she then wanted to get published and sell. Talking to her about it I discovered that the book was a direct copy of a children’s picture book written and published in 1993. Ask the chil-

Lesson Four cont.

Ask the children if they think it is ok to make money by stealing someone else's idea. Ask them how they would feel if they had worked for weeks or months on an original piece of art, writing or music only to find someone had copied their idea and was making money out of it. Ask them what the teacher could have done before starting the project (contact author or publisher to get permission to use the idea).

Content Presentation: In order to familiarize the students with the terminology and concepts, play the CyberBee (CyberBee is a company that provides Internet curriculum materials for educators) copyright game (http://www.cyberbee.com/cb_copyright.swf) on the interactive board at the front of the class. When they have read and answered all the questions show them the website from The Copyright Society of the USA (<http://www.copyrightkids.org/>) website. Tell them that they are going to do the quiz at their computers in pairs. Show them that they can click on the words they don't understand to get help. When they have completed the quiz they should print two copies of the Copyright Cat Certificate for their folders.

Learner Participation: Students will complete the Copyright Kids Quiz at their computers in pairs. (<http://www.copyrightkids.org/quizframes.htm>) When they have completed the quiz they should print two copies of the Copyright Cat Certificate for their folders.

Assessment: Check that the students made it to the end of the quiz and printed off the certificate.

Follow-through Activities: For their homework assignment, students will use a citation creation tool to create an MLA citation for the book they are currently reading. The tool they will use is <http://www.easybib.com/>. The homework assignment, Lesson 4 Citation Creation Homework which is included with the materials for this unit of instruction.

Tip: For more information about the whole issue of copyright, visit The Copyright Society of the USA at www.csusa.org.

