

FEBRUARY DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP RESOURCE

Dear Families,

February is a month in which relationships are in the spotlight everywhere you turn. In the TechForEd program, we're looking at relationships that occur online. During the month of February, learners of all ages will engage in digital citizenship learning related to **Relationships and Communication**. Through this unit, they will explore how to build positive relationships, avoid risky online talk, and understand why some topics and conversations are not suited for digital platforms.

At home, you can support your students in understanding digital **Relationships and Communication** in a variety of ways. Many kids are using social media and gaming platforms to enhance real-world friendships during the current in-person restrictions. *Common Sense Media* makes these suggestions to share with your household with links for additional resources/support:

Communicate appropriately. Use the right language for your audience. You might write or speak to a teacher differently from a friend. Tip: never use all caps!

Keep private things private. Don't share personal information, including passwords, your home address, inappropriate images, and gossip. [Privacy and Internet Safety](#)

Respect others. Be courteous. Disagree politely. [Character Strengths](#)

Don't lie, steal, or cheat. Don't try to deceive others. Remember to give credit where credit is due. Also, although it's easy to copy others' work, download things without permission, or use game cheat codes... don't do it. [Teaching Kids about Copyrights](#)

Be an "upstander." If someone you know is being targeted by a bully, stand up for that person. You would want them to do the same for you. [10 Ways to be an Upstander](#)

Report misbehavior. The Internet is a giant community, and you can help it be a nice place. [safe2tell.org/](https://www.safe2tell.org/) 1-877-542-7233 *Make a Call, Make a Difference*

Follow your family's rules. If your family tells you to avoid certain websites or to stop texting after a certain time, listen. The more you act responsibly, the more privileges you'll get. [Elementary](#) [Middle School](#) [High School](#)

Think before you post, text, or share. Consider how you and others might feel after you've posted something. It's not always easy to take back what you've said online, and your online behavior can create a lasting footprint. [Elementary](#)
[Middle & High School](#)

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Monthly Motto: *We know the power of words and actions.*

Discussion Question for School and Home:

How can I digitally communicate effectively and positively to build relationships?

Relationships and Communication Family Activities:

- [Parents Need to Know, by topic](#)
- [Family conversation guide](#)

Additional Family Engagement Resources

[Jeffco's Tech for Ed Website](#)

"Active mentorship is crucial for kids in the digital age. We want to teach kids to do the right thing, not "catch" them doing the wrong thing." ~ Devorah Heitner, PhD