

Digital Citizenship Week 2016

Digital citizens know how to use their devices safely, responsibly, and respectfully.

Dear Families,

In Bend-La Pine Schools, as well as around the country, the week of October 16-22 has been designated as Digital Citizenship Week. As a parent and an educator, I know first-hand the importance of this topic and believe it is something we need to address with our children as part of their education. Digital devices are part of our society, and their presence can be both an asset and a challenge as we balance productivity, screen time, and being present in the moment with our teachers, friends and families. During this week, it is our hope that as a community we can open ourselves to learning and discussing the role that devices play in our home, school and work lives.

We have identified a digital citizenship focus for each grade level, and teachers will lead discussions around these topics during class times. You can find the the topic for your child's grade level listed to the right. We have also identified a Family Focus for each grade level which you will find described below. It is our hope that this family focus is something you can address throughout the school year in your home. Please make sure to check out the links and other support that our team has compiled and listed on our parent support site (<http://bit.ly/dcfamilysupport>). Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Skip Offenhauser

Executive Director of Instructional Technology and Curriculum

Bend-La Pine Schools

FAMILY FOCUS FOR FIRST GRADE: MAKING GOOD DECISIONS ABOUT SCREEN TIME

First grade is a year of important transitions, as children dive into developing deeper academic skills. First graders progress to become beginning readers and writers, and we start to see learning coming from these academic skills instead of primarily from play and experiences. We will also start to see our first graders able to think about decisions before they make them, and often find them frustrated by indecision as they want to do everything, and not want to make a choice. When it comes to technology and digital devices, we encourage you to enlist your child's participation in making decisions about when and how to incorporate screens into their free time, and talk openly with them about screen time as well as encouraging other options for play, learning and socializing. It is also important for adults to evaluate their own use of technology and ensure those actions are aligned with expectations they have for their children. For more ideas on how you can support your first grader, please make sure you check out the resources linked on our parent support site.

1st

First Grade
Safe Use of Technology

#1

DISCUSS

How do I go places safely on the computer or other digital device?

#2

ACCESS RESOURCES

Please visit our parent support site:

<http://bit.ly/dcfamilysupport>

#3

PARTICIPATE

What will your family pledge to do (or not do) with your digital devices this week? If you use Twitter, Facebook or Instagram please share and use the hashtag **#blsdigitalcitizens**. You may be featured on our website!