

# Relationships & Communication



RELATIONSHIPS &amp; COMMUNICATION

Digital citizenship: thinking critically and using technology responsibly to learn, create, and participate

*We know the power  
of words & actions.*

 You've been learning about the power of words and actions online, and now it's time to help your family do the same!

 **Pssst** -- here's a secret: You're at an advantage, because you're also powerful. Not only do app developers adjust their products around your likes and dislikes, but also you grew up with smartphones and social media. Now you're learning how to be a responsible digital citizen. It's time for you to be an expert for your family and share your knowledge with them.

In class you used some resources, wrote down ideas, and formed opinions. Now it's time to share them. So, grab an available family member, and show them what you know.

## 1 Discuss

Start by choosing one of the questions below. Once you've chosen, take a few minutes to discuss your ideas together. Remember, just like in class, there's no right or wrong answer, but be sure to support your ideas with reasons:

- How have devices affected our relationships with each other?  
How would home life be different if we didn't have them?
- How can online relationships be risky? What actions can we take to lessen the risk?
- What are the similarities and differences between communicating online and communicating in person? What are the advantages and disadvantages of both?

## 2 Share

Now share your completed assignment and -- if you have time -- show one or more of the resources you used in class. Take another minute to discuss:

- What do you think are the most important things to know about this topic?

## 3 Reflect

Answer this question together:

- What can we do as a family to make sure our online relationships -- with each other and with others -- are healthy (use kind and clear language, respect other people's time, etc.)?

**Make sure to keep talking!**

Learn more ways to communicate safely online at [commonsense.org/online-relationships-tips-for-families](https://commonsense.org/online-relationships-tips-for-families).