

Alternative Activity – Caught in the Web

Objective: Students will analyze responsible and safe uses of technology. Students will be able to identify potential hazards associated with technology and apply online personal safety guidelines.

Common Core Tie-In:

- Introduction to Social Health: Course Standards #17, 18
- Introduction to Human Studies: Course Standard #15
- Lifetime Wellness (9-12): Course Standards #5.2 a/b
- Health Education (6-8): Course Standards #10.3, 12.2, 14.8

Supplies Needed:

- Ball of yarn

Directions:

Gather your students into a large circle. Hand one student a ball of yarn.

Say: *While holding the end of the yarn, -this student- is going to gently toss the yarn to someone else. It is a good idea for you to call out the name of the person you are throwing to. Then, once someone else has caught the yarn, while holding on to a piece of the yarn, they will then toss the yarn to someone else. Everyone is holding onto their piece on yarn. You cannot pass the yarn to someone standing next to you; it must go across the circle.*

Allow students to continue until yarn has run out or every student is holding a piece of yarn. The resulting pattern should be a web.

Say: *Now, without letting go of the yarn, you all have 60 seconds (or whatever time you feel is appropriate – it is better if your students do NOT untangle the web) to untangle yourselves.*

When time is up, instruct your students to stop, and drop the yarn of the ground, being careful not to trip in it.

Say: *This yarn represents a sext message, or something online that could get them in trouble such as an inappropriate picture or bullying. Once -this student- threw the yarn to -other student-, did -this student have any control over where the yarn went? No. What about after that? Just the web you created, this web represents the web you get stuck in if you take, send, request, or forward a sext message or inappropriate message online. Everyone that sends, receives, and forwards the message is caught up in the web.*