

Digital Citizenship Tip of the Month

Copyright and Fair Use

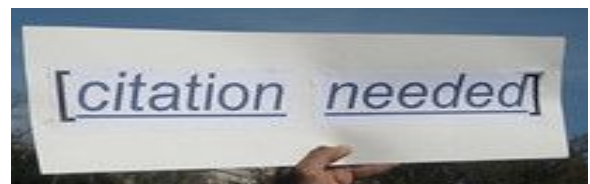
Now that school is really going and students are working hard to complete projects, papers, and assignments, it is a great time to remind them about Copyright and Fair Use. Because of the ease of making a digital copy, students may not realize what the rules are about reusing digital content from someone else and improperly use it. Examples include:

- Using copyrighted material that needs permission to reuse.
- Not using proper citations so the person who originally created the content can get credit.
- Taking credit for something that someone else created, which is plagiarism.

High school students may or may not realize that improper citation and plagiarism are a form of cheating, and this might affect getting into college or finding a desirable job. They also may or may not realize that by not following copyright and fair use, they may be engaging in illegal activity that can have severe consequences which could greatly impact their future plans. By helping them understand these principles, they can know the rules of the road of using content to be good digital citizens and prepare them to make good decisions with content in college and the workplace.

For those who want to go more in-depth with their students, there is an excellent lesson on this subject in the 7th grade Digital Citizenship curriculum, which would apply to high school, that can be found here:

<http://parentconnections.canyonsdistrict.org/2019-digital-citizenship-week.html>



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