

Day 4 Lesson Plan: Cybersecurity Poster or Board Game – Research & Topic Selection

Objective

Students will begin developing a creative project to communicate best practices in cybersecurity by selecting a topic and conducting focused research.

Word Bytes

- **Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)** – An extra layer of security that asks for a second piece of information (like a code sent to your phone) before letting you log in.
- **VPN (Virtual Private Network)** – A tool that hides your online activity and location to protect your privacy.
- **Password Security** – Using strong, unique passwords to protect your accounts from being hacked.

Materials

- Art supplies (poster board, markers)
- Digital access (Google Slides, Canva, research tools)
- [Project Rubric](#)

Activities

Introduction to the Project

- Introduce students to the two project choices:
 - **Cybersecurity Poster** – A digital or physical poster that explains a cybersecurity concept and how to stay safe.
 - **Cybersecurity Board Game** – A playable game that teaches students how to respond to digital threats and use safe practices.
- Explain that students will work on this over three days (research, design, presentation).

Mini-Lesson: Why This Matters

- Ask: “How do we learn best—by being told what to do or by discovering through doing?”
- Lead a short discussion about how teaching others can solidify learning.
- Show a sample poster or quick demo of a board game to give students inspiration.

Topic Brainstorming & Research Time

- Students choose a topic related to digital safety or cybersecurity. They begin researching facts, vocabulary, and examples using reputable sources.

Suggested topics:

- Creating strong passwords
 - Recognizing phishing emails
 - Protecting your personal data
 - What to do during a data breach
 - Benefits of VPNs or 2FA
- Encourage students to use ChatGPT or other tools to help generate ideas, questions, or visuals (with teacher guidance on ethical use).

Team Formation & Planning

- Students may work individually or in small groups (2–3).
 - They must finalize:
 - ☐ Topic
 - ☐ Format (poster or game)
 - ☐ Initial plan for layout or game structure
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Word Bytes Dictionary Update

Students add “**two-factor authentication**,” “**VPN**,” and “**password security**” to their Word Bytes dictionary with examples.

Suggested examples:

- Two-Factor Authentication – When a site texts you a code before logging in.
- VPN – Like wearing a disguise online to keep your identity private.
- Password Security – Using a long password with numbers and symbols so no one can guess it.