

Internet Beware: What Teachers Need to Know About the Internet
(available at <http://www.educationaltechnology.ca/couros>)

Workshop Guide: (to accompany PowerPoint presentation)

Site 1 : <http://www.dhmo.org>

The story behind the site: Much of the information on the site is actually true. However, the way it is presented is similar to other hysteria causing websites. Yet, once you realize that dihydrogen monoxide is nothing more than H₂O, you will realize that the chemical is not as dangerous as it sounds. However, the persuasive writing of the site certainly makes the reader a bit worried.

Site 2: <http://www.greenoasis.com>

The story behind the site: Green Oasis spammed bulletin boards with more than 8,000 posts claiming it had perfected technology to change waste motor oil into diesel fuel. As the stock prices soared, from around \$1 to \$10 by February 1997, company officers dumped more than 700,000 shares, taking home around \$2.3 million. The SEC brought a lawsuit against the CEO and others seeking a return of profits to investors. Lawsuit or not, Green Oasis is still making this claim on its Web site.

Site 3 : <http://www.martinlutherking.org>

The story behind the site: Initially, looks like a neat website site featuring information about the late Martin Luther King Jr. Once the reader probes a bit more, it's easy (for adults) to notice there are major biases in the content. If one is to probe further, say, looks at the URL with a service such as Whois (<http://www.whois.net>), you would find that the URL is registered by StormFront, a white supremacist organization. Also, notice at the bottom of the website, the link "download flyers to print out at your school."

Site 4: <http://lme.mankato.msus.edu/mankato/mankato.html>

The story behind the site: "Mankato, Minnesota is truly a wonderland." Looking closer at this site, it's hard to see how this site would fool anyone. However, parody sites like this cause their share of problems as well. Maureen Gustafson, president/CEO of the Mankato Area Chamber & Convention Bureau, is damning. She writes, " For some time your project on the Internet has troubled us. Though you claim it was done in the name of education many are laughing at our community rather than with it. Our office has received numerous inquiries on the fictitious information, and it is very embarrassing to have to explain it as nothing more than a prank." The real Mankato Minnesota site is found at <http://www.ci.mankato.mn.us> A similar site is a website for New Hartford, Minnesota, a totally fictitious place (<http://lme.mnsu.edu/newhartford/newhtfd.html>)

Key Links from this Presentation:

Articles:

“Teens Running Internet Scams on the Rise” (SiliconValley.com News)
<http://www.siliconvalley.com/mld/siliconvalley/news/editorial/2674001.htm>

“Universities still confronted by student plagiarism”
http://pr.concordia.ca/ctr/2001-02/Jan_24/01-Plagiarism/index.shtml

“Plagiarism-Detection Tool Creates Legal Quandary”
<http://chronicle.com/free/v48/i36/36a03701.htm>

SFU and student plagiarism:
http://pr.concordia.ca/ctr/2001-02/Jan_24/01-Plagiarism/index.shtml

“Email ‘hoaxers’ face charges” :
http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/uk/wales/newsid_1492000/1492581.stm

“Blaming the Net for a Young Girl’s Murder” (Christina Long):
<http://msnbc-cnet.com.com/2010-1076-922124.html>

Educator Friendly Sites: (see more at
<http://education.uregina.ca/iteachered>)

***Media Awareness Network: <http://www.media-awareness.ca>
(consider purchasing the three workshops for your school)

Math Central: <http://mathcentral.uregina.ca>

BrainPop: <http://www.brainpop.com> (one of my favorite educational sites)

CBC for Kids: <http://cbc.ca/kids/>

Evergreen Curriculum (Sask. Learning):
<http://www.sasked.gov.sk.ca/docs/evergrn.html>

Virtual Resource Centre (Sask. Learning):
<http://www.sasked.gov.sk.ca/docs/vrc/index.html>

CommunityNet (Sask. Learning): <http://www.communitynet.ca>

Web Awareness: <http://www.webawareness.org>

Google: <http://www.google.com> (my favorite search engine)

Challenging Hate Online: Taking Action (from the Media Awareness Network): <http://www.media-awareness.ca/eng/issues/internet/involved/haction.htm>

Online Maps: <http://maps.yahoo.ca>

Canada411 (directory information): <http://www.canada411.com>

GetNetWise (information for safe web services): <http://www.getnetwise.com>

Gaggle (safe email service): <http://www.gaggle.net>

Chatdanger (information for keeping chat safe): <http://www.chatdanger.com>

Bullying.org (information to help the “bullied”): <http://www.bullying.org>

Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (USA): <http://www.missingkids.com>

Canadian Association of Internet providers: <http://www.caip.ca>

“Illegal and Offensive Content on the Internet: The Canadian strategy to provide safe, wise and responsible Internet use.”: <http://www.connect.gc.ca/cyberwise>

Livewwwires- The “Missing” kit: <http://www.livewwwires.com>

Kids-Click (Literature): <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/KidsClick!/toplite.html>

WebQuests at San Diego State University:
<http://webquest.sdsu.edu/webquest.html>

Saskatoon East School Division Publishing Centre:
<http://sesd.sk.ca/publish>

Field Trips and Learning Resources:
<http://educate.si.edu>

University of Alberta Library (critical evaluation of web materials):
<http://www.library.ualberta.ca/guides/criticalevaluation/index.cfm>

Kathy Schrock’s Guide (critical evaluation of web materials):
<http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/eval.html>

Sask. Education’s Criteria:
http://www.sasked.gov.sk.ca/curr_inst/iru/webeval.html

Argus ClearingHouse (educational directory): <http://www.clearinghouse.net>

The Internet Public Library (educational directory): <http://www.ipl.org>

Yahooligans (educational directory): <http://www.yahooligans.com>

StudyWeb (educational directory): <http://info.studyweb.com>

Ask Jeeves for Kids (educational directory): <http://www.ajkids.com>

A taste of the Web: (Many sites included for awareness purposes, not endorsement)

Inappropriate Content and Hate Related?

Losers (bad taste): <http://www.losers.org>

UglyPeople.com (more bad taste): <http://www.uglypeople.com>

Who would you kill? (bad taste and hate): <http://www.whowouldyoukill.com>

StormFront (white supremacist): <http://www.stormfront.org>

MartinLutherKing.org (white supremacist): <http://www.martinlutherking.org>

Canada First (anti-immigration site): <http://www.canadafirst.net>

Choose Death (pro suicide site): <http://choosedeath.free.fr/Pages/Kill.htm>

Gambling and Alcohol

Stolichnaya Vodka: <http://www.stoli.com>

Captain Morgan Rum: <http://www.rum.com>

Gambling.com: (portal for dozens of gambling sites) <http://www.gambling.com>

Neopets: (2nd most common site for Canadian teens): <http://www.neopets.com>

Downloads:

Napster (music): <http://www.napster.com>

Morpheus (music and files): <http://www.musiccity.com>

Kazaa: (music and files): <http://www.kazaa.com>

Audio Galaxy (music): <http://www.audiogalaxy.com>

BearShare (music and files): <http://www.bearshare.com>

Download.com (commercial files): <http://www.download.com>

Tucows (commercial files): <http://www.tucows.com>

Astalavista (hack/crack site – inappropriate content):
<http://www.astalavista.box.sk>

Paper Mills and Plagiarism Detection:

Cyber Essays: <http://www.cyberessays.com>

School Sucks: <http://www.schoolsucks.com>

Turnitin (plagiarism detection): <http://www.turnitin.com>

Misinformation/Hoax Related:

Welcome to Mankato Minnesota (place that does not exist):
<http://lme.mankato.msus.edu/mankato/mankato.html>

A Great Teaching Resource?

The Whirled Bank: <http://www.whirledbank.org/>

Science Guy Bill Nye Killed in Massive Vinegar/Baking-Soda Explosion:
http://www.theonion.com/onion3629/bill_nye_killed.html

HomeHIVTest.com:
<http://www.homehivtest.com>

Is Lip Balm Addictive?:
<http://www.kevdo.com/lipbalm/addict.html>

Is Male Pregnancy Possible?
<http://www.malepregnancy.com>

Vmyths: <http://www.Vmyths.com>

HoaxKill: <http://www.hoaxkill.com>

Urban Legends: <http://www.urbanlegends.com>

Create your own hoax: <http://www.cao.com/hoax>

Security and Privacy :

WinWhatWhere (a SCARY key logger program): <http://www.winwhatwhere.com>

WebWasher (removes “spyware”): <http://www.webwasher.com>

OptOut (removes “spyware”): <http://grc.com/optout.htm>

Camouflage Software: <http://www.camouflagesoftware.co.uk>

Email Related (General):

Death to Spam (a guide to dealing with unwanted email):
<http://www.mindworkshop.com/alchemy/nospam.html>

Abuse.net (report email infringements here): <http://www.abuse.net>

Hotmail (world’s most popular web-mail): <http://www.hotmail.com>