

Name _____ Date _____



Considering Copying

You copy photographs from various Web sites and place them on your personal Web page.

You use a search engine to find several Web sites containing information for a school report. You copy, paste, and reorganize one paragraph from each site into your report. Then you write your own introduction and conclusion.

You get a very funny birthday card in the mail, scan it, and post it on your personal Web page.

You copy a photo from a Web site and paste it into a school report.

You make a copy of your favorite word processing program and E-mail it to a friend who needs it to do homework.

Kids in school find out you have a very fast Internet connection and ask you to download music files for them. You see an opportunity to make some money, copy the files onto CDs, and offer them at much cheaper prices than they would pay for a CD in a music store.

You see a very cool animation on a video game site and copy it to your personal Web page.

An older brother tells you where on the Internet to get free passwords for subscription online games. You get a password and play a game that costs others \$10 a month.

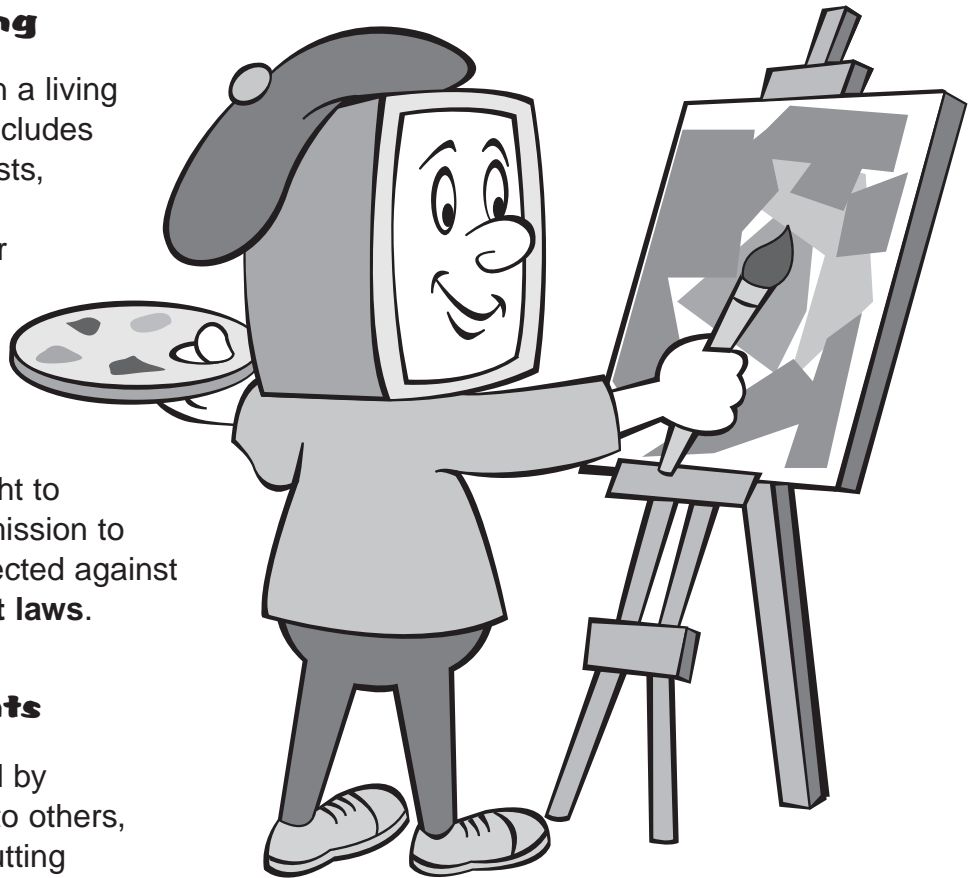
You learn where on the Internet to download first-run movies and watch one at home with your family.

You watch someone use their password to get into a library computer system and then copy the password to let yourself in.

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A Right to Earn a Living

Everyone has a right to earn a living from his or her work. That includes photographers, authors, artists, musicians, and software programmers. When another person copies an artistic work to sell or give away, the person who created the work loses money. The author or artist is the only person who has the right to make copies or to give permission to make copies. They are protected against such “stealing” by **copyright laws**.



Respecting Copyrights

If you copy a work protected by copyright and give or sell it to others, you are breaking the law. Putting copyrighted works on your Web site for public display is also illegal. Just because you may not get caught doesn't make it okay. It's only okay if the copyright owner gives you permission. Anyway, it's the right thing to do.

Remember: We are all responsible for the care of the Internet. If cyber citizens use the Internet to break the law, it may make it harder for everyone to use the Internet in the future.

Fair Use for School Work

It's okay for students to use copyrighted works in school reports and projects without getting permission. Use of the work by a student is called **Fair Use**. When you use copyrighted works, always give credit to the author of the work you are copying. Also, you must put quotation marks around the copyrighted words.

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Give Credit Where Credit Is Due

Copy and paste. Copy and paste. Copy and paste. Your report is almost finished. Or, is it? If you use the exact phrases, pictures, or graphs of another person and do not say who created them, you're guilty of **plagiarism**. While you might not get arrested for plagiarism, your school considers it a form of cheating and may punish you.

Give credit when you:

- Copy someone's exact words—even one sentence
- Copy someone's drawing, diagram, chart, or graph
- Copy facts that most people do not know
- Tell someone else's idea in your own words

Copying Passwords

Imagine that someone has found a key to your front door, uses it, wanders around your home, and stands next to your bed watching you sleep. Creepy, isn't it? And it's clearly against the law.

Now imagine that someone gains entry to your computer and looks through your files, reading things you wrote and that friends sent you. Getting into a computer without permission is also illegal. It's called **hacking**, whether it is meant to do damage or just play a game for free.

In addition to invading your privacy, hackers can delete data, damage files, and pretend to be you. Hacking into sites you should pay to use is also illegal. Think of the person who created the site. He or she has a right to earn a living.

Be CyberSmart![®]

Assume that all writings, charts and graphs, pictures, photographs, music, and movies are copyrighted, unless you see a notice saying otherwise.