

Grades 6-8 / 20 minutes / TEACHER PLAN

Pause before you share

Students practice pausing, checking and asking before sharing a link, screenshot or claim.

Before class

The three fictional scenarios below; paper or discussion only. No devices or accounts needed.

Preview the lesson and adapt it to approved school guidance. Use fictional examples; students may pass. Do not collect private student or medical information.

0-3 min / Open

Say: "Online messages can feel urgent. A pause gives us time to make a better choice." This activity uses invented examples; do not show students' real messages.

3-8 min / Model

Read the password scenario below. Think aloud: "I do not know who sent this. I will not share a password. I can ask an adult or school IT through an approved route."

8-15 min / Work together

Small groups discuss the remaining scenarios. For each, answer: What do we know? What are we assuming? Who can help verify it?

15-20 min / Debrief

Compare responses with the answer guide. Review your school's approved digital reporting route. Collect no screenshots, account details or personal experiences.

Access & participation

Read aloud, provide processing time and accept spoken, written, drawn or pointing responses. Follow individual accommodations. No public speaking or personal disclosure is required.

Grades 6-8 / STUDENT ACTIVITY

Pause before you share

Think it through. Choose a helpful next step.

These examples are imaginary. Write, draw or discuss your response. You do not need to share a personal experience. For younger learners: an adult reads the prompts.

01 / A message says your school account will close unless you send your password.

What could this person do next?

02 / A group chat wants you to forward an embarrassing screenshot of another student.

What could this person do next?

03 / A dramatic post claims school is closing tomorrow, but gives no official source.

What could this person do next?

One thing to take with you

Complete: "Before I share a surprising message, I can..." Give one concrete action.

Grades 6-8 / TEACHER ANSWER GUIDE

Talk about the why.

01 / Discussion point

Do not reply with a password or follow an unexpected link. Ask a trusted adult or school IT using a known, approved contact route.

02 / Discussion point

Do not forward it. Ask a trusted adult about the concern through school guidance. Avoid making extra copies or turning the example into a discussion of real students.

03 / Discussion point

Check the school's official communication channel with an adult. Do not spread an unverified claim as fact.

Optional family message

Today we practiced pausing before sharing digital information. Ask your child how they could check an unexpected claim using a trusted source. No device inspection or personal messages are needed.

Reference / scope

Original classroom discussion; use your school's approved guidance.

Discussion and learning only. This is not emergency response training or a substitute for qualified school guidance.