



AACPS Digital Citizenship

Lesson Title: Imagining the Future

Grade 3

Time: Two 30 minute lessons

Overview: After looking at the inventor of the WWW, students consider emerging computer and Internet technologies, and predict how such changes might directly affect the lives of kids in the future.

Objectives:

- Recognize the difficulty of predicting future technological developments
- Predict how changes in computers and the Internet will affect how kids learn and how schools are run

Materials:

Site Preview

No Internet site is used in this lesson.

Materials

- Activity sheets (2)
Imagining the Future

Smart Notebook lesson:

See Web Resources> Tech Connections>Digital Citizenship>Grade 3>Imagining the Future

Maryland Technology Literacy Standards for Students (MTLSS)

Standard 2.0–Digital Citizenship:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the history of technology, its implications on society and practice ethical, legal, and responsible use of technology to assure safety.

Standard 6.0 - Technology for Problem-solving and Decision-making: Students will use technology and develop strategies to solve problems and make informed decisions

Activities:

Introduce:

- Go to Web Resources>Tech Connections>Digital Citizenship>Grade 3>Find> Imagining the Future -Notebook file
- Take a look at the inventor of the WWW, review the vocabulary words, and complete the lesson activities.
- Ask students to predict what color of shirt or sweater you will wear tomorrow.

- After hearing their predictions, ask volunteers to explain how they arrived at their predictions. Guide students to understand that before predicting what might happen in the future, they should think about what happened in the past and the present.
- Talk about predictions and how do they think Timothy Berners-Lee came up with his idea(s).
- **Distribute Activity Sheet 1.**
- Explain that the person quoted was a very smart grownup who spent all his time thinking about making and selling computers. NOTE: The quote is attributed to **Kenneth H. Olsen, computer part inventor and co-founder of Digital Equipment Corporation, in 1977.**
- Have students complete the page, inviting volunteers to share their statements.
- **Distribute Activity Sheet 2.**
- Explain that speech recognition software is currently used by some physically disabled people, but is not widespread because of cost.
- Have students work in teams of four, with each student leading the discussion of and recording the team's prediction for one topic.
- Invite team members responsible for each topic to present their predictions to the class.
- Point out that there is no right or wrong answer and that it is very difficult to predict how technology will impact the future.

Close

- **Ask:** *Is it hard or easy to predict future inventions correctly?* (very hard)
- **Ask:** *What change in computers or the Internet will most change how kids are schooled in the future?* Students' evaluations should be supported with details.

Extend

The following activity can be added for students who completed this lesson in a previous grade.

- Have students write and illustrate their ideas about how changes in technology will affect schooling five years in the future. Place their predictions in a sturdy container to use as a time capsule. Arrange to store the time capsule somewhere in the school, such as an office safe, marked with the year in which it should be opened.

Name _____ Date _____

Imagining the Future

These words were spoken about 30 years ago. The man who said them was the president of a big company that made computers. How could he have been so wrong about the future?

He didn't know that computers would become smaller, faster, cheaper, easier, and much more fun to use. He didn't know that kids would play games, chat, and message with friends on the Web.

It's hard to guess what the future will bring. And it's *very* hard to guess what inventions the future will bring.

**There is no reason
anyone would want a
computer
in their home.**



The future did not turn out the way this man expected. What might he have said?

Name _____ Date _____

How good are *you* at predicting the future? Read about each invention.
Then write about how it may affect kids and schools.

E-books Online

Today you carry a backpack of heavy textbooks. In the future, E-books will be delivered on the Internet. How might E-books change the way kids learn? How might it change schools?



Wireless Internet

Today you can get connected to the Internet without wires. The connection is through the air like that of a cell phone. But wireless Internet is expensive. In the future, all computers may use wireless connections. You might be connected to the Internet wherever you go. How might this change the way kids learn? How might it change schools?

Computers You Wear

Computing devices are getting smaller and lighter. In the future, they may be part of your clothing. How might computers you wear change the way kids learn? How might it change schools?

Speech Recognition

Today, there are computers that understand spoken words. Instead of typing commands, you say what you want the computer to do. However, these programs are very expensive. Also, they make a lot of mistakes. In the future, computers may not need keyboards. They will all recognize speech well. How might this change the way kids learn? How might it change schools?


