Hector's World™ – Lesson Plan
Episode 3 – 'It's a Serious Game'
Years 5-6

OBJECTIVES:

1. Children understand that not everyone or everything they come across online is trustworthy.
2. Children begin to learn some of the ways they can judge the veracity of a website that is asking them to divulge their personal information.

SUGGESTED LESSON PROGRESSION:

Review the key teaching point from the first episode: there are some people in our lives that we can trust, and others we can't.

View Hector's World™ Episode 3: 'It's a Serious Game'.

Present the following questions for discussion to the class. The discussion may be facilitated by the teacher, or the class may be grouped with each group discussing and providing feedback.

- Why did Squid want Hector and his friends to enter their personal details on the computer?
- How did Squid already have Sprat's personal information?
- Why did Ming tell Hector he shouldn't be giving Tama's personal details to people he didn't know?
- Why was it okay for Tama to give his personal details to Mr. Gurnard, but not to Squid?
- Why did Ming struggle with her decision to play chess?

ACTIVITY:

Distribute the website homepage worksheets (attached) and a copy of the accompanying survey form to students. Students may be paired or work in small groups for this activity.

Explain to the students that they are to complete the survey in order to help them judge whether the websites they have been given copies of can be trusted with their personal information. As a class, complete the survey for the first website homepage (*Harry's Homework Zone*) so students understand what to do. Allow approximately fifteen minutes for the students to complete the survey form for the other two website examples. The results may be collated

Gather the class together (the results may be collated), and discuss as a group whether the website examples could be trusted with our personal information, and why.

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Teacher's Hints

In order of suitability for children, on the basis of cybersafety, from best to worst the websites are ranked:

1. *Harry's Homework Zone*
2. *CandyZone Kids Klub*
3. *4kids4free.co.nz*

Harry's Homework Zone is the most suitable site for children. The site asks for no personal details whatsoever. The only information the user is requested to provide is a fictitious nickname, which can be changed each time the user enters the site. The site also has a well presented Privacy Statement, which clearly states that no personal information is collected or passed on to third parties, what the nickname is used for, and the reason for the use of cookies.

KandyZone Kids' Klub asks for more personal details, and passes these details on to unidentified partner sites. Although this is clearly stated in the Privacy Statement (which is displayed in very small text), enough information is gathered to enable a determined individual to precisely identify and make contact with the child, even though the last name is not requested. The use of a nickname is commendable, and there is good advice about not using a nickname that could identify the child. It is concerning however, that the nickname is matched up with the email address, and displayed in the member directory, effectively allowing the child to be contacted directly. If this information is combined with other information given during the registration process, or perhaps by the child during some site-related activity, the child's privacy and possible safety is immediately compromised. Standard use is made of cookies, and the statement covers this well.

4KIDS4FREE.CO.NZ asks for full personal details and does not state what use is made of these. In fact, the tiny disclaimer actually attempts to shed all responsibility for the information provided. Any person completing the registration process has immediately lost control of their personal information. While the site may be legitimate, and may in fact hold the details securely and not share them, the fact that no attempt is made to state this should immediately arouse suspicion. As the teacher, you could remind the students that this website claims to have free chat, games and music, but the actual cost is the provision of the student's personal details. This may help to emphasise that their personal details do in fact have a value, even if it is a commercial one (i.e. their details are forwarded to a bulk (spam) mailing service for a fee).

OPTIONAL HOMEWORK EXTENSION

It would be prudent to advise parents prior to this assignment being set. To reinforce the learning, a copy of the website survey could be sent home as homework along with a short list of predetermined website addresses; parents could even be invited to participate, exploring the websites with their children. (Alternatively, students could assess sites they may have *already* signed up to. Care should be taken to emphasise that students are not being asked to sign up to *new* websites.)

Note: The school should also be consulted regarding internet use policies prior to setting the assignment.

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Online Privacy Website Survey

Website name or URL:

Are you required to enter personal details *before* using the site?

YES ❑ NO ❑

What information does the site ask for?

What is your personal information used for? (e.g. email updates)

Can other people see your information? (e.g. member directory)

YES ❑ NO ❑ Don't know ❑

Did the website contain a privacy statement?

YES ❑ NO ❑

Was the privacy statement easy to find and understand?

	YES	NO
Easy to find:	❑	❑
Easy to understand:	❑	❑

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Welcome to

HARRY'S HOMEWORK ZONE!

Please enter the nickname you would like to use for this session:

ENTER

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Your Personal Information
Harry's Homework Zone does not collect any information which can be used to identify you.
No information you enter while visiting this website will be passed on to any third party.

Your nickname
You must enter a nickname in order to access this site.
Your nickname is only used to personalise your visit to this website.
You must not use your email address, or any other information that could be used to reveal your personal identity as your nickname.
You may use a new nickname each time you visit.

Cookies
Harry's Homework Zone uses cookies to help personalise your visit, and these cookies are installed on your computer. The cookies are used for that individual visit only, and you may safely delete them when you have finished.
The cookies do not send any information to any other website.

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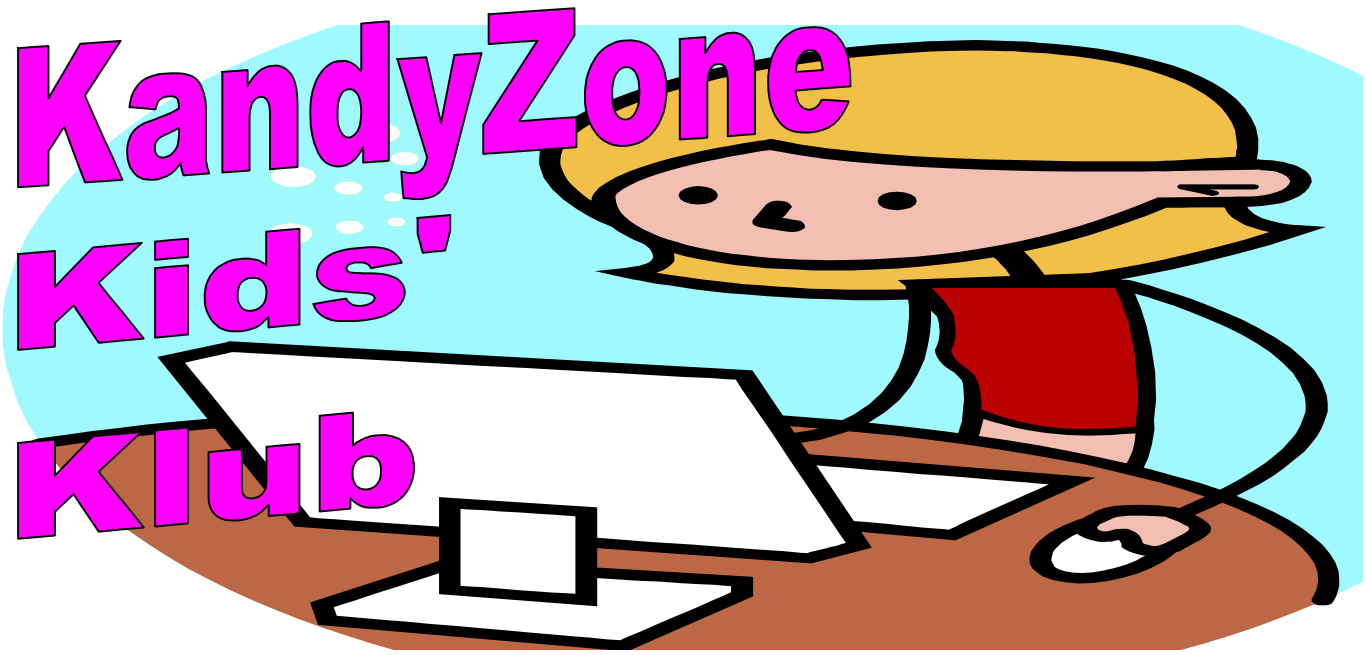

A great place to hang out and meet new friends

Please register to use this website

Your first name

City

School

Date of Birth

Email Address

Please enter a nickname to use for this website

Please enter the password you wish to use

Sign me up!

Privacy Statement

Your Personal Information
KandyZone Kids' Klub collects your personal information in order to personalise your visit to our site.
Your information is passed on to our partner sites who may send you advertisements via email.
Your nickname and email address are displayed in the membership directory for other members to see.

Your nickname
You must not use any information that could be used to reveal your personal identity such as your nickname.
You must use the same nickname each time you visit KandyZone Kids' Klub.

Cookies
KandyZone Kids' Klub uses cookies to help personalise your visit, and these cookies are installed on your computer.
If you have blocked cookies from being installed on your computer, KandyZone Kids' Klub will not work.
The cookies do not send any information to any other website.

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4 kids 4 free .co.nz

Welcome to the coolest place on the Internet.
FREE chat FREE games FREE music

You must register to use this website

First name

Last name

Date of Birth

Address

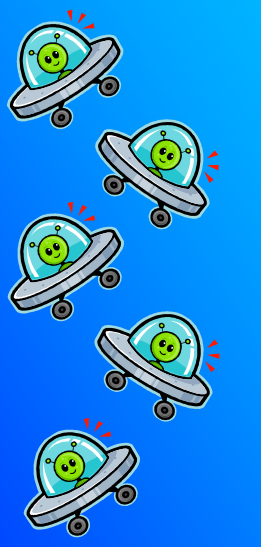
Mobile number

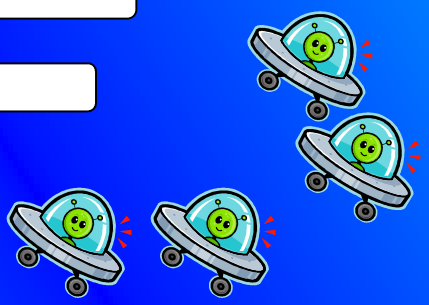
Email Address

Please enter a nickname to use for this website

Please enter the password you wish to use

GO!





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