Digital Identity & Digital Citizenship
Examining your digital footprint
Created by: Alec Couros and Katia Hildebrandt

EXERCISES

1. Warm up:
● Question: If you Googled yourself, what would you find?
● Did anything surprise you?
● Are you happy with what you found?

2. Video: Digital dossier
● What are your thoughts on this lifelong accumulation of digital footprints that forms your identity as illustrated in the video?
● What do you think of others having the power to shape your identity? (e.g., that your parents/guardians, friends, strangers can shape how people see you?)
● What types of things can you can do to create a positive digital identity?
● What social networks do you use? Facebook? Twitter? Pinterest? Others?
● What do you think are some common sense rules when establishing an online identity?
● How can we intentionally create and manage our online identities?
● How do we deal with information about our identity that is false, that we're not proud of, or things that we'd rather forget?
● What are the advantages and disadvantages of being entirely (or mostly) "off the grid" in today's world?

3. Group Activities - Link to Blank Worksheet

4. Follow up discussion:
● What are your thoughts on the amount of information that you found on these people?
● Did anything that you found surprise you?
● Do you see any of the information shared as being potentially unsafe or unnecessary?

5. Discussion - digital citizenship and becoming an upstander:
1. What are some of the biggest challenges that you think teenagers face today when it comes to your identity online?
2. What are some negative behaviours that you've seen online? What effect might these behaviours have on your peers?
3. What can you do if you see something negative online? What can your school/teachers do? What can the greater community (e.g., law enforcement, legislators, parents) do?
4. If you were developing a code of conduct for being online, what are the five most important rules you would include?
5. What are some ways you and your classmates can have a positive impact online? How

can you be an upstander when you see negative things happening? How can you contribute and work together to create a more positive school culture and greater society, including in online spaces?