

Computer Ethics 3: Mock Trial

Grade Level: 4-5

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to recognize why it is important to respect others property on the computer.
2. Students will recognize that even if they didn't access information in an illegal way it is still wrong to look at it.

Materials:

1. Packet for defense lawyers.
2. Packet for prosecution.
3. Packet for defendant.
4. Packet for accuser.

Overview of Trial:

The defendant went to a computer in which the accuser forgot to sign off. The defendant looked on the computer at some of the accuser's files. The defendant claims he or she did nothing wrong because the accuser forgot to log out therefore allowing anyone to come up to the computer and look at his or her files.

Procedure:

1. Distribute packet to two lawyers, two prosecutors, one defendant, and one accuser.
2. All the other students will be the jury for the mock trial.
3. The teacher is the judge for the mock trial.
4. Each side makes an opening statement.
5. Have prosecution present their case calling the accuser to the stand.
6. First have the prosecution ask questions to the accuser, then the defense.
7. Have the defense present their case calling the defendant to the stand.
8. First have the defense ask questions to the defendant, then the prosecution.

9. Allow time for the jury to discuss and come up with a verdict.
10. Each side gives a closing statement.

Closing:

If the jury comes up with a verdict in which the defendant is innocent review previous ethics lessons. If jury comes up with a guilty verdict discuss what the defendant should have done upon coming up to a computer in which somebody forgot to log out. (Tell the student, tell the teacher.)

Supplemental Materials:

Description of roles for prosecutors, defense lawyers, defendant, and plaintiff:

Defense Lawyers: Opening Statement:

1. The defendant did not illegally access the accuser's files by stealing a password.
2. It is the accusers fault for not logging out.

Defense Lawyers: Questions for Accuser:

1. If you cared about your files so much why didn't you log out?
2. Don't you think that it is disrespectful to other students that you did not log out?

Defense Lawyers: Questions for Defendant:

1. Did you use the accuser's password to access the computer?
2. Whose fault do you think it is that the accuser's files were accessed?
3. Would you have ever seen the accuser's files if he or she would have logged out properly?

Defense Lawyers: Closing Statement:

1. The defendant did nothing wrong because he did not steal the password to access any of the files.

Prosecutors: Opening Statement:

1. Nobody should ever look at another person files without permission.

2. The accuser made an honest mistake by forgetting to log out, and the defendant should have told him or her about it.

Prosecutors: Questions for Accuser:

1. Why didn't you log out?
2. What do you think the defendant should have done when they came across your files?

Prosecutors: Questions for Defendant:

1. Why didn't you tell the accuser when he or she forgot to log out?
2. How would you feel if somebody looked through your files?

Accuser:

You feel that you did nothing wrong and that the defendant should have told you about you forgetting to log out. You also feel that nobody should ever look at anyone else's files.

Defendant:

You feel like the accuser should have remembered to log out. If the accuser cared about his or her files that much they would have made sure to log out of the computer. You didn't illegally access through stealing a password. You feel like you did nothing wrong.

Indiana Academic Standards:

Grade 4:

Language Arts:

- 4.7.1 Ask thoughtful questions and respond orally to relevant questions with appropriate elaboration.
- 4.7.5 Present effective introductions and conclusions that guide and inform the listener's understanding of important ideas and details.
- 4.7.6 Use traditional structures for conveying information, including cause and effect, similarity and

difference, and posing and answering a question.

- 4.7.7 Emphasize points in ways that help the listener or viewer to follow important ideas and concepts.
- 4.7.8 Use details, examples, anecdotes (stories of a specific event), or experiences to explain or clarify information.

Social Studies:

- 4.2.6 Give examples of how citizens can participate in their state government.
- 4.2.7 Define and provide examples of civic values in a democracy.

Grade 5:

Language Arts:

- 5.7.1 Ask questions that seek information not already discussed.
- 5.7.3 Make inferences or draw conclusions based on an oral report.
- 5.7.4 Select a focus, organizational structure, and point of view for an oral presentation.
- 5.7.5 Clarify and support spoken ideas with evidence and examples.
- 5.7.6 Use volume, phrasing, timing, and gestures appropriately to enhance meaning.