



The first year of [Cyber Civics™](#), recommended for 6th grade, focuses entirely on **Digital Citizenship: The norms of appropriate, responsible technology use**. This is the foundational year of the program and is followed by a full year of lessons on [Information Literacy](#) (recommended for 7th grade), and a full year of lessons on [Media Literacy For Positive Participation](#) (recommended for 8th grade). Signing up gives you a school-wide, year-long license to sequential weekly lessons (about 50 minutes long) that scaffold important digital literacy topics.

## ABOUT CYBER CIVICS™

In 2010, Journey School, a Waldorf-inspired public charter school in Aliso Viejo, CA, responded to a social media “incident” by allocating an hour per week in grades 6-8 to digital citizenship and literacy lessons — or what we now call “**Cyber Civics™**.” Having just published [New Media Literacy Education: A Developmental Approach](#) in the Journal of Media Literacy Education (JMLE), I was excited and honored to put academic research into practice through these in-class lessons. Here we are years later... this program has yielded outcomes (see below) that have exceeded our expectations, it has been honored as an [Innovation in Education](#) finalist by Project Tomorrow and the O.C. Tech Alliance, has attracted [national media attention](#), and is now being taught in schools across the U.S. and internationally! We are honored to share Cyber Civics™ so that *all* students can learn these essential digital life skills.

## ABOUT YEAR 1

Year 1 addresses a growing need to prepare students with the skills to be **ethical, confident, and empowered digital citizens**. The lessons, which emphasizes ethical and critical thinking, discussion and decision making through hands-on projects, problem solving, and role-play, can be taught entirely without technology... that’s because experts widely agree the most important new media skills are social and behavioral skills.

**“The new media literacies almost all involve social skills developed through collaboration and networking.”**

-Jenkins, Henry, et al, “Confronting the Challenges of Participatory Culture: Media Education for the 21st Century” (2006)

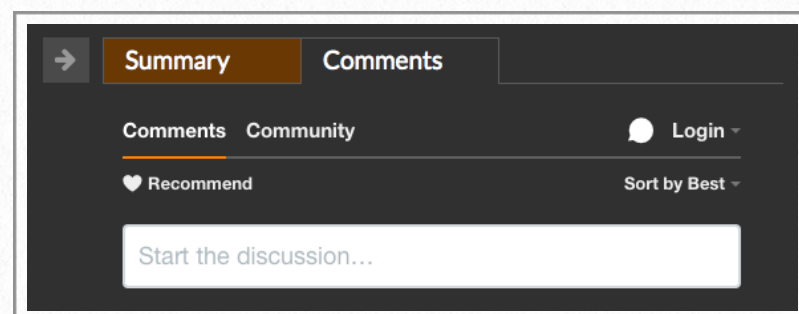
## PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Since implementing the program, **incidents of cyberbullying, digital drama, plagiarism, and other typical downsides of technology have become history at our pilot school**. Social media and other digital issues no longer demand administrative time or attention. ([See testimonials](#))
- The pilot school’s [API](#) (Academic Performance Index) score rose steadily and significantly throughout the first three years of the implementation of Cyber Civics, the highest point gain in the Capistrano Unified School District! Although it’s impossible to draw a direct correlation to these classes, media/digital literacy educators say these lessons, which place an emphasis on critical thinking skills, help students academically across *all* subjects. ([Read more here](#))



## SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CYBER CIVICS

- Educators access course materials online and deliver the lessons live, in the classroom. They are easy and fun to teach and they encourage students to work together to negotiate norms they will take into their digital world. The program is based upon [published](#) academic research and is developmentally appropriate for middle school.
- By purchasing this program your school receives **one year access to weekly hour-long lessons intended primarily for 6th grade (though many schools use them in 5th and 7th grades also)**. Lessons can be downloaded as PDF's, many include worksheets and attachments, and all videos and other resources are included. Some lessons have multiple parts, and/or can extend over a couple of class periods. They are designed to be flexible depending upon the time you have to allocate to Cyber Civics™.
- The cost for a **school-wide license is \$699**. Upon registration any teacher at your school planning on teaching these lessons can open his or her private account and get full access to lessons, videos, resources, the communications portal, ongoing support, and monthly newsletter. **Annual renewal is only \$149**. Resources are updated and refreshed continually.
- Some of the curriculum is curated from known, vetted, online sources. These are combined with new lessons in order to scaffold important digital literacy concepts. **This is important**, because some of these lessons can be found online elsewhere for free. Cyber Civics™ is based on my experience teaching these lessons, adapting them, re-ordering and adding to them in a way that is developmentally appropriate for middle school, and saving you time from having to do this yourself. You are *encouraged* to go directly to the source of any of the curated lessons, all citations and links are included.
- This program also gives educators the opportunity to **ask and receive coaching and direct answers to questions they may have and to discuss lessons with others** by using the embedded Disqus program in Skilljar.
- The [Cyberwise website](#) provides a TON of support for educators and parents. In addition to all the free resources on the site, we offer a [free bi-weekly newsletter](#) and [Cyberwise Certified online courses](#) that **prepare educators to teach these lessons with confidence**. Taking our newest course--[Digital Literacy for Teachers and Administrators](#)--you can even earn university credit through the University of the Pacific.
- This curriculum took many years to find, test, organize, re-write, and upload to this site. It is regularly updated and refreshed with new content. However, we never want price to stand in the way of a school using this program, so if cost is a concern, please [contact us](#).
- This program is affordable for homeschool too ([ask us](#)).
- We offer in-person workshops and coaching for educators, parents, and schools ([ask us](#)).



**The fine print: By purchasing this curriculum you agree not to copy and/or share it beyond your own classroom or school. Why? Because as a digital literacy educator it is your responsibility to model this basic tenet of “digital citizenship.”**

Thank You!

Diana Graber, Cyber Civics and Cyberwise Founder  
Journey School Cyber Civics Teacher