Assignment 6 – Internet Resources

Copyright Issues:

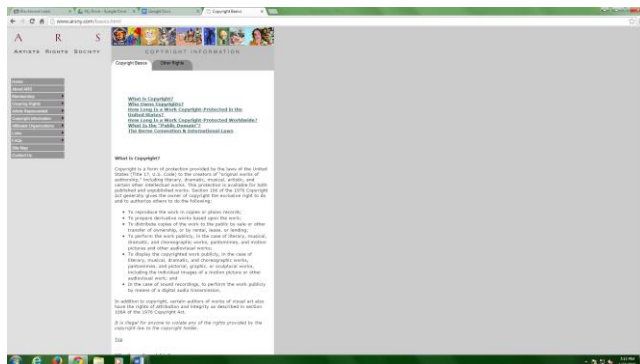Website: SEQLegal

[SEQLegal](#)

This website explained 10 important (and sometimes mistaken) facts about copyrights, copyright infringements, and what copyrights actually do and mean. It explains that the symbol (©) is not only to claim the copyright, but it is also to give credit to the author, and to remind the public that there are copyright protections. Many people believe that ignorance is bliss when it comes to copyrighting, but the article defies that claim, stating that testimony will not hold up against a judge, and can be highly punishable.

Website: Artists Rights Society (ARS)

[Artists Rights Society](#)

People often come into trouble with copyrighting accidentally because they are unaware, uneducated, and/or ignorant to what qualifies as copyrighting, and what qualifies as infringing upon those copyrights. Some people intentionally plagiarize or misuse information, but this website focuses on informing the uninformed. The article provided many interesting facts about copyrights, including, "works originally created before January 1, 1978, but not published or registered by that date: These works have been automatically brought under the statute and are now given federal copyright protection."
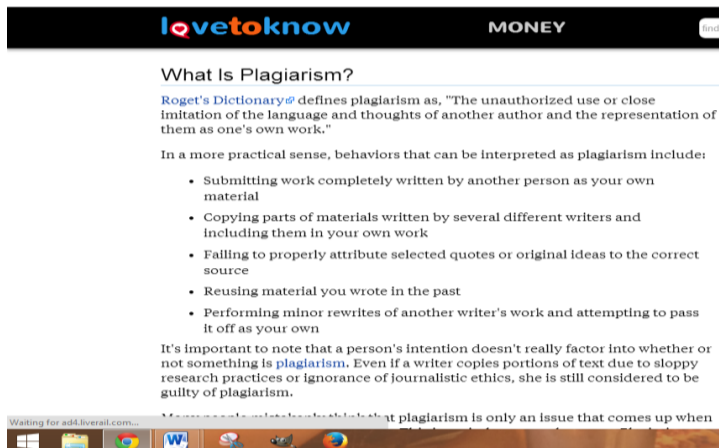
Plagiarism in School Settings:

Website: KidsHealth

[KidsHealth](#)

This website appeals to future educators like me because it gives scenarios to help explain what plagiarism is and how to know whether or not a piece of information is, in fact, plagiarism. The language and the scenarios that are used are child-friendly, so if a child wanted to know what plagiarism was, it is very simple for them to understand. It explains that the main question one must ask himself when using information from a source is, "Would I have known this information before I just read it?" If the answer is no, then the source must be cited, or the user would be plagiarizing. This website is clear, concise, and straightforward, as well as simple to navigate.

Website: Love to Know
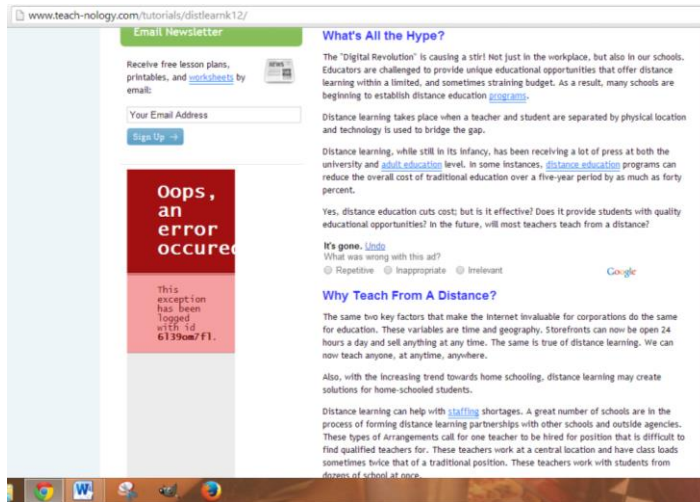
[Freelance Writing – Love to Know](#)

Freelance Writing – Love to Know is an incredibly informational website that not only lists some examples of plagiarism, but also provides many consequences and punishments at the school-age, collegiate, and professional levels. One of the most interesting facts that I read in the article is something I remember learning about in school (but had somewhat forgotten that it was a rule); there is a term called self-plagiarizing, where if you use a phrase, idea, or piece of work for an assignment that you had previously written for a different assignment, then that is considered plagiarizing, and is punishable. Even if the original work was not plagiarized, using it again at a later time can be labeled as cheating. Plagiarism is not and should not be taken lightly. Authors work hard for their pieces, and for someone else to claim them (even often accidentally) is unacceptable.

Distance Education in K12

Website: TeAchnology

[TeAchnology – Distance Learning in K12](#)

Distance Education (or commonly referred to as distance learning) is when schooling is instructed via technology. This TeAchnology article explains both the pros and cons of using distance education, but also how it ultimately can be incredible beneficial to our education system. It says that "distance learning takes place when a teacher and student are separated by physical location and technology is used to bridge the gap." Because of distance education, students and teachers can be connected anywhere at any time, with endless possibilities for learning potential.

Website: Huff Post Education

[Huffington Post Education](#)

This Huff Post Education article, as the title states, is about weighing the pros and cons of online learning, also known as distance learning. There were some very interesting points that I hadn't thought of before, such as the statement of, "there's concern that the private sector may be behind the push toward online learning, so that companies creating online content can reap the rewards from taxpayers." Basically, anything that is "free" is never truly free; someone, somewhere is paying for it. Many are concerned that taxpayers would make up for the lower cost of online education. The article concludes by declaring that not enough information is known nor not enough research has been conducted to determine whether or not distance learning is a benefit or a disadvantage, but that we will surely be learning more in the future.

Digital Citizenship

Website: Edutopia

[Edutopia – Digital Citizenship](#)

I was so glad to stumble upon this article and website. The term "digital citizenship" was relatively new to me, so finding an article that not only explained what it was, but also how to incorporate it into an elementary classroom was appealing to me. It explains that for so long, we have taught children social skills and bullying in face-to-face situations, but in today's society, that's not quite enough. Now we have an obligation to, as the article states, teach how to be respectful when commenting on a blog post or how to handle a situation in which you're being harassed online. It also gives examples of ways to teach proper digital citizenship, along with some projects, as well.

Website: Digital Citizenship

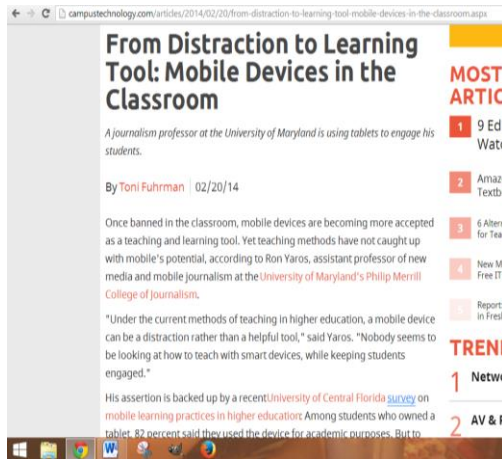[Digital Citizenship – Using Technology Appropriately](#)

Using technology appropriately is something that we, as a society, are beginning to have to face that we have never had to face before. This website did an adequate job of explaining what digital citizenship is, and what the term is used for in education. However, what I found most useful in the article was the resources that it provided, offering information for different data concerning digital citizenship. This quote, "With the changes happening so rapidly please check out some of these leaders on Twitter using the #digcit to search for ideas," was one of the most intriguing things found in the article, because it proves that the author(s) is very aware of the rapid change in technology.

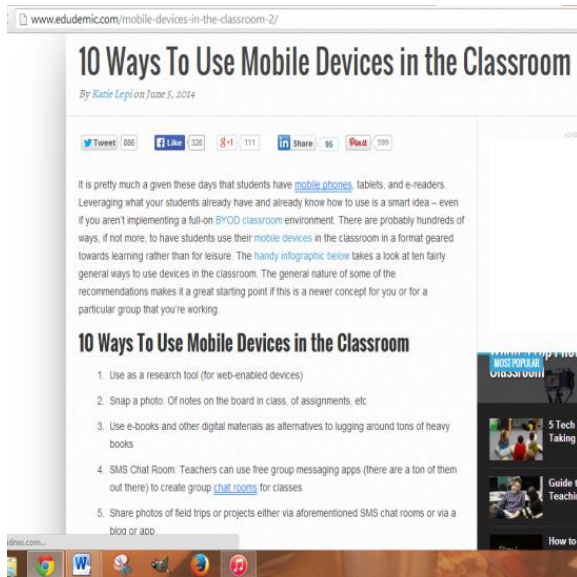# Mobile Learning (Cellphones and Tablets)

Website: Campus Technology

[Campus Technology – Mobile Devices: Distractions or Learning Tools?](#)

This article from campus technology focused on how mobile devices can be a distraction from learning in the classroom, but also how they can be a huge learning tool. It discusses that different devices can help and hurt learning opportunities. For example, the website focuses on Ron Yaros, assistant professor of new media and mobile journalism at the University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism. He states that he bans laptops from his classroom because laptops allow multiple windows to be open at a time and serve as a distraction. The optimal device, in his opinion, is a tablet, because only one page can be open at a time, and he can involve his students in interactive activities through individual tablets.

Website: Edudemic – Connecting Education and Technology
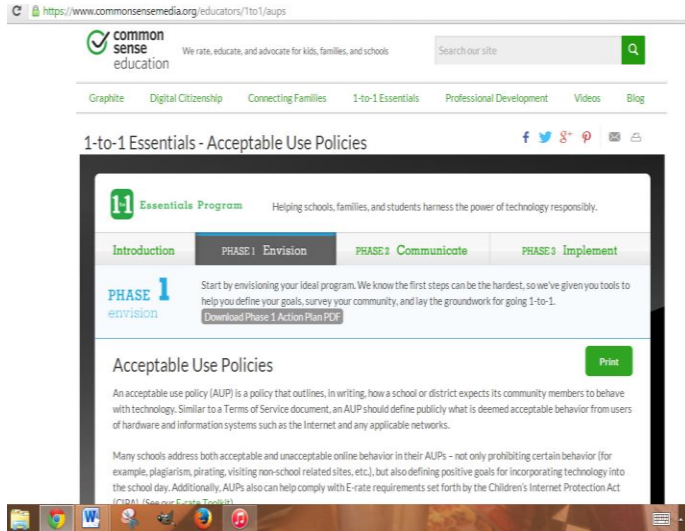
[Edudemic](#)

I actually enjoyed this website because it is straightforward, easy to read, easy to understand, and practical. While some teachers may be opposed to using mobile devices in their classrooms, this article lists 10 ways they can begin introducing mobile devices to develop curriculum. We live in a world where teachers almost have to include devices and technology in their classrooms, because we live in such a technology-run world. These 10 ways to incorporate it into the classroom are easy and sensible uses for mobile devices. One of my favorites was #9: Call a friend: Connect with guest speakers or other classrooms via skype.

Acceptable Use Policy

Website: Common Sense Education

[Common Sense Education – Acceptable Use Policies](#)

I had always heard of Acceptable Use Policies (AUP) from being in school and having to fill one out, but the wording was always somewhat confusing on them, so I never really understood all of the things that were involved in AUP. I thought this website did a good job of breaking down the parts and purposes of Acceptable Use Policies. It used simple language, providing guidelines, samples, and tips. The article, however, was from the perspective of writing an AUP form, which I almost bypassed to find a different website, but then after I started reading it, I realized it was more thorough and easy to understand when it was explained that way.

Website: Technopedia

[Technopedia – Acceptable Use Policies](#)

Technopedia explained what an acceptable use policy is ("An acceptable use policy (AUP) is a document that outlines a set of rules to be followed by users or customers of a set of computing resources, which could be a computer network, website or large computer system"), and then explained it in their own words that would be easier to understand (AUPs are mostly used by organizations deploying networks for internal use, such as commercial corporations, schools and universities. For example, some companies do not allow employees to use the corporate LAN after-hours for activities that don't provide value to the company). The most important point for me from the article was, "Users may only glance through AUPs or not read them at all. Often, this happens because AUPs use standard do's and don'ts and may be written in a way that is hard to read and understand." I related well to this because I am one of those people who were confused by the wording that was used, but signed it anyway. The article goes on to explain that this can be a big mistake because you can overlook unusual details.