Cracking the <Media Literacy> Code

Students strengthen their ability to read across multiple texts to gather information

Reading and synthesizing informational texts to understand how to consume media responsibly is vitally important for today's students. Using myOn.com in this project to help students nurture their understanding, students read four expository texts in the book series, *Cracking the Media Literacy Code*. They then take the myOn.com quiz for each book and/or the Accelerated Reader Quiz to demonstrate a basic or literal understanding of the texts' topics related to viewing and navigating social media, online advertisements, propaganda, and news. A journal feature allows them to identify and explain three important ways to consume media responsibly. Lastly, using Canva Education, students translate their paragraph explaining the three ways to use media responsibly into an infographic that visually represents the important ideas of their writing.

WORKSHOP INSTRUCTION – WHAT TEACHERS LEARN

- How to use myON.com to teach complex ELA standards
- How to use myON.com to create literacy projects on engaging/critical topics, such as media literacy
- How to access Canva Education, an online design platform

STUDENTS

Adaptation: Can be adapted to grades 6-
Students who participated: 33 fifth grade students, individually and, met in small groups, met during three to five 60-minute sessions to complete from start to finish

MATERIALS & RESOURCES

Materials: Electronic devices
Resources: The Internet, Canva Education platform with Parental Consent Form, M-DCPS portal, myOn.com, YouTube videos for infographics

ABOUT THE TEACHER

Andrea Johnson has 17 years of teaching experience, including 5 years as a K-5 ESE resource room teacher, 6 years as an elementary ELA teacher (grades 3-5), five years as a sixth-grade ELA teacher, and one year as a full-time primary reading coach. She has served several years as a department chair, the professional development liaison, a Teacher For America summer mentor teacher, and a professional development facilitator. For 8 years, she has used myOn.com to create literacy-themed reading and writing projects on various topics and has specifically used the Becoming a Media Literate 5th Grader project for one school year.

To register and download project info for this workshop, visit www.educationfund.org

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"We must provide students with tools and strategies to understand how to strategically navigate the information age we currently live in."

STANDARDS

LANGUAGE ARTS

ELA.K12.EE.2.1 Read and comprehend grade-level complex texts proficiently.

ELA.K12.EE.1.1 Cite evidence to explain and justify reasoning.

ELA.K12.EE.5.1 Use the accepted rules governing a specific format to create quality work.

ELA.K12.EE.6.1 Use appropriate voice and tone when speaking or writing.