

Don't let it go!

Use a ball of string to demonstrate to your young people how hard it is to get something back once you have posted it online.

(Offline activity)

Suitable for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Network

You will need:

- A ball of string



Instructions

1. Explain to your young people that the Internet opens up so many possibilities and offers a wealth of information. However, there are also risks when posting online. Tell your young people that this activity is going to mimic what happens to your information when you post it online.
2. Get the group into a circle. Give one member of the group a ball of string. Ask that member to hold the end of the string and then throw the ball to another member of the group, without letting go of their end of the string.
3. The person who has just received the ball should then hold the string in the place that they have caught it and throw the ball to another person in the circle. This should continue until over half the group have thrown and received the ball and are all holding onto their spot of string. At this point ask the person who first threw the ball to step outside the circle. The young person who is left holding the ball of string, should remain holding it.

4. Ask the person outside of the circle how they can get the string back? Can they cut it? Can they simply pull it away? Will it ever be a neat ball of string again?
5. Explain that once something is posted online it is hard to remove.

TIME NEEDED

10 minutes

THIS ACTIVITY
LINKS WITH THE
FOLLOWING
BADGE



Digital Citizen Badge

OUTCOMES

The young people will have a better understanding of how online information spreads and how once a piece of information is out in the open, it is impossible to control or get back.