

# Who Are Digital Natives & How Do We Make Them Digital Citizens?

## Who Are They?

### Digital Natives are:

“... first generations to grow up with new technology. They have spent their entire lives surrounded by and using computers, video games, digital music players, video cams, cell phones, and all the other toys and tools of the digital age.”<sup>1</sup>

### Generation Z includes Digital Natives.<sup>2</sup>

Born in or after 1997

Ages 22 and younger

### Generation Z loves the internet and devices.

90% go online multiple times each day<sup>3</sup>



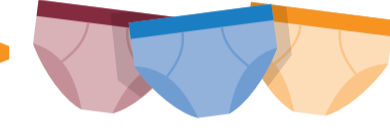
40% say working Wi-Fi is more important than working bathrooms<sup>4</sup>

### And they live on social media.

44% check social hourly<sup>7</sup>



1 in 10 would rather go 3 days without refreshing their underwear than 3 days without refreshing their Twitter feed<sup>8</sup>



### They are attached to their phones.

98% own a smartphone<sup>5</sup>



Spend 21 hours per week on their phones<sup>6</sup>



## How Do We Teach Them to Be Responsible Digital Citizens?

### Digital Citizenship is:

“The self-monitored habits that sustain and improve the digital communities you enjoy or depend on.”<sup>9</sup>

### 6 Tips for Teaching

### Digital Citizenship:

**1** Incorporate digital citizenship into your core curriculum as early as Kindergarten.



**2** Create an acceptable use policy to guide online behavior.

**3** Focus teaching around the “9 Key P’s.”<sup>10</sup>



How to create safe, secure **Passwords**



How to protect online **Privacy**



When to share — and not share — **Personal Information**



How to post **Photography** responsibly



How to **Protect** against viruses, malware, phishing, ransomware, and identify theft

Understanding **Intellectual Property Rights**



How to secure **Permission** for and cite works shared online



Understanding the **Permanence** of an online presence

Ways to keep online activity **Professional**



**4** Ask students to pledge to use the internet and devices responsibly.



**5** Include parents in conversations and lessons around digital citizenship.



**6** Equip teachers with programs for monitoring and managing EdTech use.

### Teach Digital Citizenship with NetRef

NetRef is a powerful EdTech monitoring and management tool that can help teachers encourage students to be more responsible digital citizens.

- Watch over online activity on any student device in real time.
- Direct students away from distracting sites in a click.
- Lock down browsers to deter cheating.
- Communicate with parents about issues with online distractions.
- View usage data to determine how EdTech is helping, or hindering, learning.

Learn more about how NetRef can help you build strong digital citizens by managing devices and activity, monitoring web use, and knowing the value of your EdTech. Visit [www.net-ref.com](http://www.net-ref.com).

<sup>1</sup> Prensky, Marc. Digital Natives, Digital Immigrants. October 2001.

<sup>2</sup> Pew Research Center. Generations and Age. <https://www.pewresearch.org/topics/generations-and-age/>

<sup>3</sup> Pew Research Center. Teens, Social Media & Technology 2018. <https://www.pewinternet.org/2018/05/31/teens-social-media-technology-2018/>

<sup>4</sup> Ryan Jenkins. How Generation Z Uses Technology and Social Media. <https://blog.ryan-jenkins.com/how-generation-z-uses-technology-and-social-media>

<sup>5</sup> GlobalWebIndex Q2 2017. <https://blog.globalwebindex.com/chart-of-the-day/98-percent-of-gen-z-own-a-smartphone/>

<sup>6</sup> Pew Research Center. <https://www.pewinternet.org/2018/05/31/teens-social-media-technology-2018/>

<sup>7</sup> Ryan Jenkins. How Generation Z Uses Technology and Social Media. <https://blog.ryan-jenkins.com/how-generation-z-uses-technology-and-social-media>

<sup>8</sup> Ryan Jenkins. How Generation Z Uses Technology and Social Media. <https://blog.ryan-jenkins.com/how-generation-z-uses-technology-and-social-media>

<sup>9</sup> TeachThought. The Definition of Digital Citizenship. <https://www.teachthought.com/the-future-of-learning/the-definition-of-digital-citizenship/>

<sup>10</sup> Vicki Davis. 9 Key P's of Digital Citizenship. <https://net-ref.com/on-demand-webinar-9-ps-of-digital-citizenship/>