Respect

In these lessons, students will apply the concepts they have learned about respecting themselves and others to evaluate how we use technology to either respect or disrespect others.

Begin the unit with the whole class lesson and then aim to complete at least two of the mini lessons with your students throughout the week. Each mini lesson is designed to present elements of the main lesson in new and engaging ways.

Main Lesson

Whole Class Lesson
30 minutes

START HERE

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. - In Our Culture
Discuss, specifically, how we see respect and disrespect of others play out in popular culture and the media. This will include a whole class evaluation of some recent media headlines and a discussion about whether the headlines (and subsequent stories) show respect or not. The group will also define "trolling" and cyberbullying. (*See page 3 for lesson details.*)

Mini Lessons

For Small Groups
15 minutes

If You Don't Have Anything Nice to Say...
In small groups, have students read this article (or read as a large group and handout [or display on the smart board] the specific image/tweet in question): Julia Roberts Fires Back at Woman Who Calls her Ugly

Have students evaluate the article through the following questions:
- Why do you think people say disrespectful things about other people online like this?
- Do you think Julia Roberts was right to respond? Why or why not?
- Re-read the last paragraph of the article: *Fans have praised Roberts for sticking up for herself — though some have taken it upon themselves to leave bullying comments on the original poster's Instagram account. Word to the wise: It's hard to toe the "if you don't have anything nice to say, say nothing at all" party line when you're trolling someone in the process.* What is wrong with the fans' approach to defending Roberts? What could they have done instead?
- Apply It: What is your reaction to people when they post mean or disrespectful comments online? Have you ever responded with an equally mean or disrespectful comment? How can we show respect to others online even when they have not earned it with their words or actions?

For Partners
15 minutes

Song Lyrics - Respect Evaluation
In partner pairs, have students draw a popular song title (with lyrics) out of a hat and evaluate the lyrics. Do they show respect? If so, how and to whom? If not, what is the message and how does that influence those who hear it? Recommended song choices (pick others if you want):

- [Fight Song](#) by Rachel Platten
- [Roar](#) by Katy Perry
- [Bad Blood](#) by Taylor Swift
- [Scars to Your Beautiful](#) by Alessia Cara

For Individuals
15 minutes

Respect Reflection
Journal about a time you saw someone being disrespectful to another person online. You may choose to journal about someone you know or someone you don't know. What was your response? If the answer is "nothing", what could you have done to reinsert respect or to show the person being disrespected that you care?

Technology-Focused
15 minutes

Tweets of Respect
Based on everything you've learned about respect over the last four weeks, "tweet" (write) a definition of respect in 140 characters.

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. - In Our Culture

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Lesson Timeframe
30 minutes

Required Materials
❏ Headlines (either provided or personally supplied) - could be replaced with ads, images, or other pop culture icons

Standards Map
This lesson aligns with CASEL Competencies, National Health Education Standards, International Society for Technology in Education Standards, when applicable, and Common Core State Standards. Please refer to the Standards Map for more information.

Lesson Objective

Students will:

- Evaluate how we use technology to either respect or disrespect others.
- Examine themes of respect or disrespect in popular culture.

Teacher Connection/Self-Care

Culture is a big reflector of respect. If the people within the culture show respect for themselves and others, the culture is healthy and has the capacity to grow. If the people within the culture do not show respect for themselves and others, the culture is unhealthy and will remain fixed and stagnant, if not regressive. How is your school culture right now? What about your classroom culture? What are some things you can do to improve the culture and improve your capacity for respect? Set one goal this week around improving your classroom culture and work toward meeting it in the next few weeks. Observe how you and your students improve giving and receiving respect after that goal is met.

Share

5-7 minutes

This is our last week of lessons for the Respect Unit. So far we have talked about what it means to respect ourselves, others, and things (especially when it comes to school). With a quick show of hands, how many of you have thought more about these concepts or paid more attention to respect - respecting ourselves, others, and things - more in the last three weeks because of these lessons? (Let students raise hands.)

Inspire

15 minutes

Our last lesson is about how we see respect demonstrated (or not!) in popular culture. We get so many messages every day - online, on TV, in music, on billboards, and in ads - and not all of them are positive. In fact, we see a number of negative messages every day, sometimes every few minutes. Sometimes, when someone intentionally uses their online platform to be cruel and disrespect someone else, this is called "trolling". Have you ever heard this word? The goal for the person who is trolling another is to get them to react. It

is a lot like the concept of "trolling" when fishing. When you are trolling as a fisherperson, you are dragging your baited line slowly behind your boat, trying to lure the fish to bite. The same is true when a person is trolling online. They are hoping if they say enough nasty things, the person they are disrespecting or bullying will bite back. This also falls into the realm of cyberbullying, which we won't discuss in detail today. But I am sure you are all familiar with this term. Cyberbullying is when a person uses digital technology to bully or treat another person in a cruel manner. This goes beyond disrespect, though. Today we are going to explore more of the subtle messages we hear in our culture today that could skew us toward behaving disrespectfully more so than respectfully (and vice-versa). We will talk about cyberbullying in another lesson.

Empower

15 minutes

Project the following headlines up on the smartboard (print and handout to small groups if you cannot project). You can also find your own local or more meaningful headlines.

Have students analyze and discuss each one, and ask if/how respect is being shown. Encourage students to look specifically at the words used in the headlines, the tone, and the overall message.
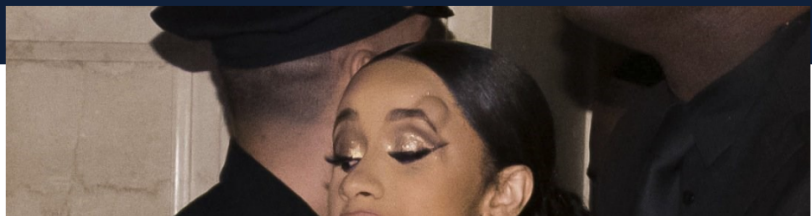
(See example headlines on next page.)

Headline 1:

Cardi B escorted out of fashion party after lunging at Nicki Minaj

"I addressed you once in person, and every time you copped the plea!!" Cardi B wrote on Instagram.

by Associated Press and Shannon Ho / Sep.08.2018 / 2:20 AM ET / Updated Sep.08.2018 / 12:12 PM ET
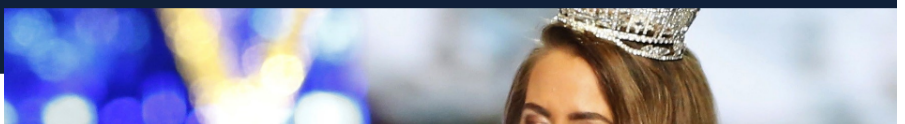
Headline 2:

Miss New York wins Miss America in a new-look, swimsuit-free pageant

Replacing bikinis with interview questions, Miss America rounds out a controversy-filled year.

by Associated Press / Sep.09.2018 / 10:30 PM ET

Headline 3:

Laura Ingraham Dings Parkland Student David Hogg, Says He 'Whines About' College Rejections

[f] [t] [in] [reddit] [t] [✉]

"How desperate do you have to be to pick on kids. You are filth," tweets one angry Twitter user at Fox News anchor

Headline 4:

People are destroying their Nike shoes and socks to protest Nike's Colin Kaepernick ad campaign

Bill Bostock Sep. 4, 2018, 8:40 AM

Headline 5:

Homecoming queen wins football game, wins at life

Jay Busbee, Yahoo Sports   10 hours ago

Reflect

5-7 minutes

Invite students to reflect on what you've just discussed and to look for and think about the messages they see in pop culture. Remind students to think about what the messages are communicating: the words used, the themes, and the images. Tell them to evaluate each one for elements of respect.