Instructional Scenario
Be Careful What You Post

Course/Duty Area: Information Technology Fundamentals/Exploring Internet Fundamentals

Data is everywhere. You are providing data to others all the time. Sometimes this data can be directly linked to you as an individual; sometimes not.

Social media and the Internet have taken over the way information is communicated. People believe that everything they see or read on the Internet is true. However, think about a time you read something on the Internet that was hurtful towards someone.

Scenario #1:

Employee Suzanne takes a sick day from work. Another employee, Patsy, shows their boss pictures posted on Instagram of Suzanne enjoying the day on the beach. Upon Suzanne's return, the boss fires her.

Scenario #2:

Ned has an important Calculus test coming up and does not want to fail it. He sits next to Tyler, the smartest student in the class. The next day they get their grades and Ned passes. That afternoon, Ned posts on social media that he passed the Calculus test, thanking Tyler in the post.

Big Question:

What ethical considerations should have been made in Suzanne's and Ned's situations?

Focused Questions:
- Did the people have the right to use the information they did, or should it have been private? Why?
- Are the people who were affected by the use of this information at fault? Explain.

Student Project or Outcome:

Students should explain how things posted on social media and the Internet can be used against them.

Project-Based Assessment:

Students will answer the questions and be detailed in their responses.

Scenario submitted by Elisa Bradford, Blue Ridge Technical Center, Warren County Public Schools