

What is the Internet?

Lesson Overview

Students will investigate how the internet works by discovering which devices in their lives are connected. They will create a visual representation of a network to understand the benefits and challenges of being part of a large, global network.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify digital devices at home and school and explain how they connect to form the internet.
- Describe the internet as a global network that connects billions of people, including those we do not know.
- Reflect on the benefits and challenges of being connected to a global network.

Key Words

Internet, network, devices, connection, satellites, wifi

Resources

[Lesson slides](#), paper, coloured textas/pencils, scissors, glue, (optional: camera)

Curriculum Links

Digital Technologies (9.0)

- Identify and explore digital systems... and describe how they transmit data to other digital systems. ([AC9TDI4K01](#))
- Recognise different types of data and represent data... for a specific purpose. ([AC9TDI4K02](#))
- Explain how student-developed and existing solutions meet needs. ([AC9TDI4P05](#))

Digital Literacy

- Investigating: Students locate information about digital systems and organise this data visually to demonstrate network relationships and connections.

Lesson Slides

Introduce:

- Ask: What is the internet?
- Show: Internet definition
- Ask: What do you like to do online?
- Ask: What devices do you have that connect to the internet?
- Progress through [slides 7-11](#), showing networks growing from a small number of devices to thousands. Pause regularly to prompt discussion (discussion questions on slides).

Explore:

Children....

- Draw pictures of devices they have at home or school that connect to the internet.
- Cut them out and place them on a large piece of paper.
- Draw lines to show how they are all connected.



Educator (optional)...

- Take photos of the illustrations, upload them to Canva, use background remover, scatter them on a slide, save as a png.
- Upload the image and duplicate it so there are now 4x as many devices.
- Repeat the process like you see in the slide deck.

Reflect:

- Ask: How many devices are connected to your network?
- Remind them: The internet is a global network. It connects billions of devices!
- Ask: What's good about being connected to billions of people? What's not so good about being connected to billions of people?
- How can we make the internet a better place for everyone?
- Share final Safer Internet Day Slide.