

Social Media TestDrive

Social Media TestDrive can be used with a number of devices but a desktop or laptop computer provides the best experience.

Social Media TestDrive does not collect or store any personal information. All data is permanently deleted once users finish a module or leave the Social Media TestDrive website.

Social Media TestDrive was created by researchers at Cornell University and is being promoted by the PROMoting School-Community-University Partnerships to Enhance Resilience (PROSPER) project at Penn State University.

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Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay

A free online program to help middle school students engage in safe and responsible online communication.

12 modules use simulated digital experiences and scenarios to teach youth to navigate social media successfully and develop digital citizenship.





Social Media TestDrive prepares youth for the online world through experimental learning in a simulated social media environment. It's ideal for youth who are becoming interested in social media, but may not have created their social media accounts yet.

Modules cover the following information:

- How to create accounts and choose strong passwords
- How to keep private information safe
- How to recognize cyberbullying and ways to stand against it
- How to identify scams and phishing activity
- How social media content and interactions affect our feelings
- How social media posts can impact one's digital footprint
- How to develop healthy habits when using social media
- How to decipher fake news and ads

Youth will learn key terms and practice social media skills in a guided setting during each module. They will have an opportunity to explore a simulated social media site where they can further practice their new social media skills. Each module concludes with a reflection activity where youth answer questions which help them think about what they learned and how they may apply their new knowledge to real life online conversations.

All modules are designed so that youth can complete them by themselves, but parents are encouraged to try them out and discuss the content with their children.

To learn more or to get started, visit the Social Media TestDrive site at:

<https://socialmediatestdrive.org>



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