



PLTW Virtual Learning

6th Grade Intro to Tech

April 22, 2020



6th Grade Intro to Technology Lesson: April 22

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will understand how to de-escalate digital drama so it doesn't go too far.

Warm-Ups:

Do a quickwrite to give your responses to these two questions:

When there's a fight or an argument at school or in public, how do people usually react?

How does drama—emotional conflict between people—happen online? Can you think of any examples?

Lesson Introduction/Background Information:

Digital drama is when people use devices, apps, or websites to start or further a conflict between people. Digital drama can be different from in-person drama for a number of reasons:

- It can reach a big audience and reach them immediately.
 - It can include images or videos that get people's attention.
 - It can involve people posting things anonymously.

Practice:

Watch this video and answer the two discussion questions:

[Watch video](#)

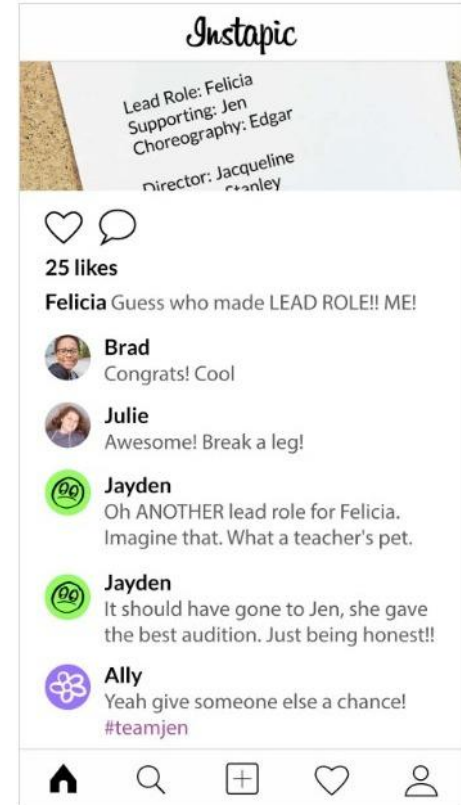
1. Why does digital drama happen?
2. What are some ways to deal with digital drama?

Practice:

Read the scenario below.

Felicia and Jen are friends from school. They both audition for the lead role in the school play. The next day, the drama teacher, Mr. Adler, posts the final cast list, showing that Felicia was selected for the role. Felicia posts a photo of the list on social media with the caption "Guess who made LEAD ROLE!! ME!" Other students at her school see the post and make comments.

The comments continue to come in. People start responding with *#teamjen* and *#teamfelicia* hashtags. Later, in response to Jayden's comments, Felicia posts an embarrassing picture of Jayden and calls him out for failing Mr. Adler's class.



Practice:

You are going to take the perspective of one of the people involved in the scenario: Felicia, Jen, Jayden, Mr. Adler, or Ally. Write down the person you are taking the perspective of. Then, based on that perspective, complete the columns in the table on a piece of paper.

I am taking the viewpoint of

. Based on that viewpoint ...

<i>I acted the way I did because ...</i>	<i>One thing I could've done differently was ...</i>	<i>Something that might've stopped me from doing something differently was ...</i>

Self-Assessment:

Our goal in this case, or when any drama is present, is something called **de-escalation**, which means to lessen the intensity or anger in a conflict.

Explain the scenario to a family member and then explain what you think different people in the scenario could have done to de-escalate the situation.

Extend Your Learning/Continued Practice:

When we see digital drama/cyberbullying or know it's happening, we have a choice: We can be bystanders or upstanders. Being an upstander might mean responding directly to the bully, or it might mean doing something else to support the person being bullied. If we're worried about what others might do when we stand up to a cyberbully, it can help to talk through some possible situations to feel prepared.

Let's read through these situations (find a family member to participate with if you want) and then discuss how you could be an upstander in each one. You can talk through with your family member what might make us hesitate as well as some solutions so you feel ready to face cyberbullying if it happens. The example might give us some ideas (see the next slide).

Extend Your Learning/Continued Practice:

Example: You often see mean comments from the same person on your friend's Instagram posts.

How can you be an upstander? *I could post a comment telling that person to stop being mean.*

What might make you hesitate? *The person might not stop and might start being mean to me, too.*

What's a possible solution? *I could post something nice about my friend, and we both could block that person so we don't see those comments anymore.*

Situation No. 1: A friend sends an embarrassing picture of another friend around over text. How can you be an upstander? What might make you hesitate? What's a possible solution?

Situation No. 2: A kid in your class is bullied in person at school, and people make fun of her online, too. How can you be an upstander? What might make you hesitate? What's a possible solution?