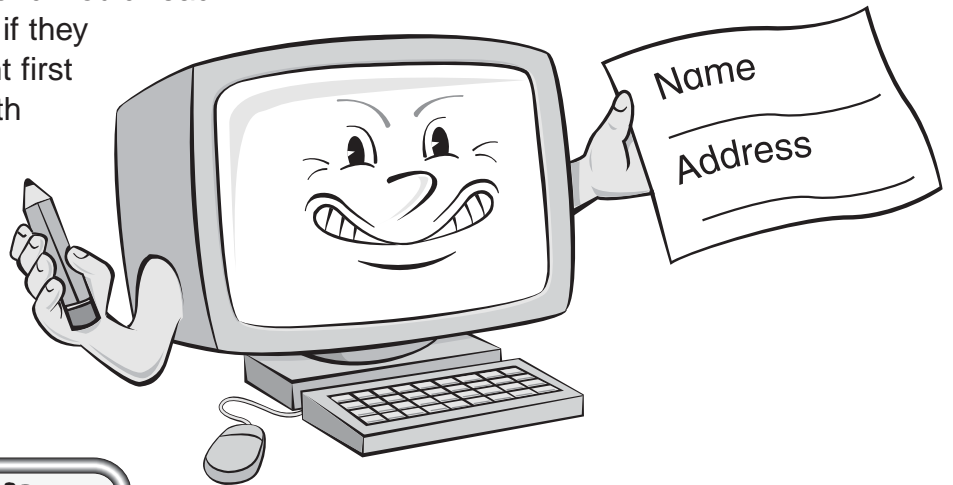


Name _____ Date _____

Private and Personal Information

A Great Place to Share Ideas

Cyberspace is a great place to learn, to be entertained, and to try out new ideas. Suppose you visited a Web site where you could post your ideas about protecting wild animals. Think how exciting it would be to have others read and respond to your opinions. People around the world would read what you'd written and tell you if they agreed. However, the site might first require you to fill out a form with your name and the name of your school. What should you do?



What's Private Identity Information?

- full (first and last) name
- postal address
- name of school
- school address
- E-mail address
- phone number
- passwords
- calling card number
- credit card number
- social security number
- mother's maiden name
- your parent's place of work
- photos in which you can be recognized

Private Identity Information

Stop and think, "Am I being asked to give out information that reveals who I am or where I can be found?" These kinds of facts, shown in the chart, are called private identity information. You wouldn't give out this kind of information to a stranger on the street. Nor should you in cyberspace. When you communicate in cyberspace, you're dealing with strangers, too.

So, protect yourself, your family, and friends by not giving out private identity information without permission of a teacher or parent.

Name _____ Date _____

Personal Information

It's okay to share information about yourself, your family, and friends that cannot be used to identify you or them. This is called personal information and the chart shows some examples. Think of some other examples to list below.

What's Personal Information?

- your age
- whether you are male or female
- how many brothers and sisters you have
- your favorite band
- your favorite food
- how many pets you have
- the name of your pet
- your opinion about an important issue

Make a Collage

Plan a collage about yourself that includes pictures, words, and other items. First, use the box below to jot down ideas about what to put in your collage. You can include personal information, but omit private identity information—just as you would in cyberspace. Then use these ideas to make your collage. Finally, have the class review and evaluate your collage, making sure it contains no private identity information.