Lesson Plan
This lesson plan is designed to help you teach using a Common Craft video. Use the information below to introduce the video and then follow the video with discussion questions and other resources.

Piracy Online
Explained by Common Craft

Piracy, on the open ocean or online, is illegal because it is a kind of theft. By understanding different types of online piracy and why it’s illegal, we can start to see how piracy impacts the artists we love and represents a risk to us as individuals.

commoncraft.com/video/piracy-online

ISTE Standard:
Digital Citizen, Indicator 2c

ACRL Info Literacy Frame:
Information Has Value

Learning Outcomes

• Explain why online piracy is illegal and how it impacts the artist or creator
• Define online piracy and the types of materials that are most frequently pirated
• Describe the damage online piracy can cause to an individual artist or organization
• Identify strategies to take to avoid purchasing and using pirated software

Discussion Questions

Q #1
Compare and contrast piracy on the high seas with piracy online.

Q #2
Have you ever created a digital work of art such as a song or a photograph? What steps might you take to protect your work from online piracy?

Knowledge Check Q&A

Q
What is online piracy?

A
Online piracy is the act of accessing, downloading, copying, and distributing files without payment or the owner’s permission.

Q
True or False. The only victims of piracy in the music industry are the big corporations.

A
False.
What risks are involved with using pirated software?

Pirated software may work poorly or not work at all. It also may lack support systems that keep it up to date and protected from viruses and criminals.

How do you avoid pirated software?

Buy it from trusted stores and websites and look for official packaging.

Resources for Learning More

Bloomberg
Leonid Bershidsky
“Why Netflix is winning the online piracy wars” 5/2017
https://www.bloomberg.com/view/articles/2017-05-02/why-netflix-is-winning-the-online-piracy-wars

New York Times
Stephen Heyman
“Sweden's notorious distinction as a haven for online pirates” 6/2015
https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/18/arts/international/swedens-notorious-distinction-as-a-haven-for-online-pirates.html

Wired
Andy Greenberg
“6 men admit to running a giant 100m software piracy ring” 12/2015
https://www.wired.com/2015/12/6-men-admit-to-running-a-giant-100m-software-piracy-ring/

Forbes
Nelson Granados
“How piracy hurts the filmmakers and artists you admire” 12/2015