



NewsFlash! Video Game and Resource Pack

Parent/Carer Notes

Thank you for downloading the resource pack which accompanies the NewsFlash! video game. This document provides a short introduction to the game and Resource Pack activities.

Aim of the game:

Join Olive, Omar and Newsi as they investigate the disappearance of their teacher, Mr Clark, and tackle the misinformation that is being shared among the students.

Can you help the team to find out the truth and disprove the rumours?

By following your own path, finding clues, interviewing staff and students and researching leads, you and the three friends will disprove the misinformation that is being spread around the school and hopefully find Mr Clark in the process!

The **NewsFlash!** Video Game explores the phenomenon of misinformation and provides children and young people with some of the tools that they need to spot 'Fake News'. The game is aimed at children and young people between the ages of 8 - 12. Through a series of fun tasks and mini-games, they will learn...

- Some of the reasons why people might spread misinformation.
- Where and how to seek out truthful, reliable information, both physically and online.
- Why a Library can be a useful place when looking for the truth.

How to use the Resource Pack:

The Resource Pack contains 5 different themed activity sessions which can be used either as stand-alone activities by parents, carers or teachers or as a series of lessons. Activities are linked to 5 key themes and include an introduction presentation and associated activities. The 5 themed activity sessions are:

Activity 1: Exploring Vocabulary

In the presentation you will learn what important words and phrases you might need to know to navigate the world of misinformation and 'Fake News' online. The follow-up activities invite children to show what they have learned by matching the words and their definitions with a Word Search or Crossword.

Activity 2: Acting on Misinformation

What happens if you act on misinformation and 'Fake News'?

This activity explores some of the possible consequences of listening to false information and how it can affect the choices that we make. In this activity, Key Stage 2 explore the consequences of acting on misinformation in a School Council election. Key Stage 3 explore which stories they should or should not share in the school news bulletin and what the consequences could be of spreading misinformation.



Activity 3: Misinformation in the News

Is all of the news that you read online always completely true?

In this activity, AJ and the team explore the fact that sometimes the news we read online can be misleading. It explains that sometimes people post news stories online that have manipulated the facts to suit their agenda or that they might have made up the story completely. It gives children the tools they need to spot whether a news story is truthful and reliable or whether they should perhaps check the facts before they share or act on the news.

Activity 4: Misinformation on the Internet

Is all of the information that you read online always completely true?

While researching a school project, Olive, Omar and Newsi once again work with AJ, the School Librarian, to identify which websites are more likely to give them facts and which might contain misinformation. The accompanying activity sees Key Stage 2 spotting what makes a website untrustworthy and Key Stage 3 creating their own misinformation-filled website.

Activity 5: Identifying Misleading Images

Does every photograph show the truth?

In this activity, Olive, Omar and Newsi learn that photographs can be edited to trick or mislead the viewer. Join AJ and the team as they gather tips for how to spot a doctored photograph and then see if YOU can spot whether or not a photograph has been edited.

Let us know how we did

We would love to know what you thought of the game and how you think we could improve it. We would be very grateful if you could please take 5 minutes of your time to let us know what you thought of the NewsFlash! Video Game and Resource Pack by completing this short survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EL2public>

Thank you very much for playing the NewsFlash! Video Game. If you would like to share your experience on Social Media please use #ImAFactChecker.