Teacher Resource: Cybermarvel Week 3

Avoiding Scams

Scams are on the rise, and are getting harder to spot.

Scammers may try to trick people into sharing private information like bank account details and passwords.

Focus Questions

- Why is it important to be on the lookout for scams?
- What type of information is a scammer trying to get from you?
- How can you spot a scam?

Watch:

Watch this video as a class:
grok.ac/marvel-scams-video

Discuss: what are the red flags you should watch out for?
(An offer that's too good to be true, being put under pressure, or an unsolicited message.)

Glossary:

Unsolicited	Something is **unsolicited** if it's something you haven't asked for: a prize in a competition you didn't enter, a message about a delivery you aren't expecting, or a request to pay for something you haven't ordered.

Online Activity: grok.ac/marvel-course-3 (30 mins)

Direct students to complete Module 3 of the Cybermarvel online course. In the course students will work through five interactive problems where they learn to identify scams and phishing messages, by looking out for red flags.

Activity 3.1: Scam Detective (grok.ac/marvel-ws3-1) (30 mins)

In this activity students work through four examples of scam messages and spot the red flags which indicate that they are scams.

Activity 3.2: Take on the Scammers (30 mins, optional)

Once students complete activity 3.1, provide them with an opportunity to design their own scam website or email message, stepping into the shoes of a scammer. These can be presented as posters, with

KEY LEARNING

Students learn about scams and phishing messages: how to spot them and what action they should take if they receive them.

CURRICULUM

Apply digital information security practices independently apply strategies for determining and protecting the security of digital information and assess the risks associated with online environments

Apply personal security protocols identify the risks to identity, privacy and emotional safety for themselves when using ICT and apply generally accepted social protocols when sharing information in online environments, taking into account different social and cultural contexts.

annotations (similar to our own poster, available at grok.ac/marvel-poster-3.

You can provide additional requirements to students: to make the scam as subtle as possible, or as brazen as possible.

Discussion
Question: why do scams often contain terrible spelling and grammar?
Answer: There is some evidence that scammers deliberately use poor spelling and grammar to screen out those who are likely to spot the scam.

Wrap Up (+ classroom poster):

To reinforce the outcomes from this week's activity, schools have received a poster containing scam spotting tips. If you don't have the pack but would like print off your own poster you can access it at Grok.ac/marvel-poster-3.

The red flags to watch out for in spotting a scam are:


if you're put **under pressure** to answer quickly and act fast


if what is being offered is **too good to be true**


if it's an **unsolicited message** (you didn't ask for it)


it's from an untrusted source


there's dodgy design


it's a strange request from someone you know or a well-known business