



Brownie Digital Leadership

Every day, people use **technology** to help us do things. We use cars. We use microwaves. We also use computers.

Digital technology is machines like computers, tablets, or smartphones. Everything we do with digital technology happens in our **digital world**.

In this badge, find out how technology can help you be a leader who teaches, inspires, and makes the world a better place.

Steps

1. Explore your communities
2. Discover your digital footprint
3. Examine what's true and not
4. Design a digital community
5. Create content for change

Purpose

When I've earned this badge, I will know how to lead in the digital world. I'll know how to use technology to make the internet and world a better place.



Words to Know

Catfish: A person who pretends to be someone they're not online with the intention of tricking you.

Community: A group of people who come together around a place, idea, interest, or goal.

Digital: Finding or sharing information online. It's also connecting with others through technology.

Digital community: Who and what you interact with online, including people and organizations.

Digital content: Something created to be used or shared online, like a video, poster, slideshow, or online presentation.

Digital footprint: The trail of what you do online. It's generated automatically when you move around and act in the digital world.

Digital leadership: When you use technology to protect yourself and inspire and guide other people.

Digital world: Using technology like a tablet, smartphone, or computer.

Emoji: A digital symbol that shows people, objects, feelings, or actions.

Private vs. public information: Private information tells others your identity and shouldn't be shared with others. It's things like your name, address, phone number, email, school name, and passwords. Public information, like a favorite song or book, is okay to share with people you know and trust.

Technology: Machines that help us do things. Digital technology includes computers, tablets, and smartphones.

Values: Things you believe in that guide how you act. They can be seen in what you say and do. Some values are kindness, fairness, and telling the truth.

Step 1: Explore your communities

A **community** is a group of people. They might live in the same town. They might do the same activity, like soccer or choir. They might have the same goal. A neighborhood is a community. A dance class is a community. Girl Scouts is a community, too!

Every day we connect with other people. We say “Good morning!” to our family. We eat lunch with our friends. We catch up with other Girl Scouts. We can connect in real life or online in a **digital community**. Digital communities can be far apart and use technology to connect.

Choices—do one:

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Write an emoji story. An emoji is a digital symbol. It can show a person, object, feeling, or idea. Choose a community you belong to, like school or Girl Scouts. Find five emojis that can be symbols for your community, like a paint brush for art or a piano for music. Then, write a story about a time your community worked together. Swap out words for the emojis!
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Create a skit about the Girl Scout Law. The Girl Scout Law reminds us to be honest, fair, friendly, and helpful. Choose a community you belong to. How does it follow the Girl Scout Law? Go through each line of the Girl Scout Law. Then use your ideas to inspire a skit about your community working together in real life and online.
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Explore your cookie community. If you sell cookies, other people probably help to buy, sell, and deliver your cookies. This is your cookie community! You might connect with them at a cookie booth or have a Digital Cookie page online. Celebrate your cookie business and community with a short video. If you want to share your video online, ask a trusted adult to share for you.

Lead in the Real and Digital Worlds

Here are some ways to lead online and offline:

Do one thing at a time. If you’re using a digital device for your homework, only do that. Avoid playing a game, messaging with other people, or watching videos at the same time.

Be kind and considerate. Take care of yourself and others online. Don’t share secrets, bad words, or mean things. Ask before you use someone else’s device or send photos or videos of other people.

Balance your screen time. Spend as much time every day in the real world as in the digital world. Go for a walk. Paint. Dance. Read. Cook.

Eat and sleep screen-free. Enjoy your meal and talk with friends or family eating with you. Turn off all screens at least an hour before bedtime.



Step 2: Discover your digital footprint

Technology can make life easier. It can also make it fun. You can check the weather. You can play a video game. You can find and watch cat videos online.

Technology also connects people from all around the world. A person in India can send a photo to someone in Mexico. Someone in Texas can post a video for everyone to see!

When someone walks, their feet might make tracks on the ground. Even if you can't see it, what you do online can leave a track, too. Each track is information about you. It gets saved in the digital world. This is called your **digital footprint**.

What's the Difference? Public and private information

What's public information? Public information is okay to share with people you know and trust. It doesn't give clues about who or where you are. You can share your favorite color with a friend. You can share a song with your cousin.

What's private information? Private information isn't okay to share with other people. It could help them figure out who you are. It could also tell them where you are. It's information like your full name, address, password, email, or phone number.

**Not sure if
something is okay
to share?**

Ask your parent,
teacher, or
another adult
that you know
and trust.

Just like detectives, others can learn about you from your digital footprint. They might learn what games you play. They might learn what apps you use. They might learn who your friends are.

Choices—do one:

Make artwork about you. Write a list with information about you. Then imagine you shared the list online and it became part of your digital footprint. Is it private or public information? Is there anything you shouldn't have shared? Cross out any private information. Then use the public information to inspire art. Paint, draw, or make anything else. How can you show what you care about? How can you show what you like to do?

Make a profile for Juliette Gordon Low. Juliette started Girl Scouts long before the internet! Imagine she had a profile online. A person's online profile represents who they are to others online. Who would be in her digital community? What would she do, say, and share? Would she share her birthday? Would she post her favorite animal? What would she keep private? What would be public? Sketch a profile for Juliette.

Make digital badges. Girl Scouts put badges and patches on their sash or vest. It's information about being a Girl Scout! What would be on your sash or vest in the digital world? Choose five pieces of public information that are okay to share online with people you trust. Draw a "badge" for each. They're like tracks in your Brownie footprint! Then brainstorm "badges" with private information. Don't draw them—they're not okay to share online!

Stay Safe Online

We follow rules in the real world to stay safe. We use the crosswalk. We stop at red lights. Rules also keep us safe online. They protect you, your information, and your technology.

Here are some ways to stay safe online:

Check with an adult. Ask before you go online, search for a website, play a video game, or use an app. Only use kid-safe apps and websites.

Don't share private information. Only share public information with people you know and trust. Don't share photos of yourself or others with strangers.

Don't talk to strangers. Don't text, message, video chat, or email with people you don't know. Tell an adult if anyone you don't know tries to contact you online.



Step 3: Examine what's true and not

Just like special effects in a movie, people can edit photos in magazines and online. Apps can change how a photo looks. You can make the colors brighter. You can add a filter. You can add text. You can change the background. You can change hair and eye color. You can even change the shape of your face and body.

Photos or information you see online may be real. Or they may have been changed to make you see something else. That's why it's important to pause and think. What are you looking at? Does it make sense? Does it look like other people or things you've seen in your everyday life?

Being a digital leader means not just looking at but also thinking about what you see. It means being aware of what may have been edited. It means helping others know how to spot something that is untrue.

Choices—do one:

Spot the fake. Watch a video, movie, or TV to find special effects. Did you see flying cars? Talking animals? Empty cities or highways? Then look at ads and photos in a magazine, catalog, newspaper, or online. What has been added to each? Words or filters? Is anything missing? Each thing you spot is a digital clue that something may have been edited! What can you do if this happens when you're online?

Pretend to be someone else. Online, **catfish** are people who pretend to be someone else to trick you. They might use someone else's name. They might use someone else's photos. Dress up to create three disguises. What would a hat or sunglasses do? What



Be a Digital Detective

How can you tell if something has been edited?
Look for clues! For example:

- **Look at photos and videos carefully.** Did the creator use a filter or change the lighting? Does the picture look too perfect? Does something in the image seem strange?
- **Read or listen to the words carefully.** Sometimes companies post what looks like a news story. It might actually be an ad! Look for words like sale, ad, buy, or sponsored. If a story includes what people think, and not just facts, it might say “opinion.”
- **Figure out who created it.** Can you tell who made the image or wrote the words? Why did they make it? Can you trust them? Is what they’re saying true?
- **Be yourself and don’t compare.** Photos you see online may have been filtered and edited. People can be or show almost anything they want online. That doesn’t make it true or real!

Don’t worry if you don’t see anything.

Many people can’t tell if an image has been edited. That’s because a lot of times it looks real!

if you hid your hair or drew on a mole? Would a lab coat convince people you’re a scientist? Would a sports jersey make people think you’re on that team? How would these changes fool others? After, think about how easy it was to pretend to be someone else. Can you imagine this online? How can you spot catfish?

Edit a photo. Find a photo. Add words to it. Draw or paint to change it even more. If you have a device, ask an adult to help you edit the photo. Play around. Add filters. Add text. Change the lighting. Look at your finished photo. How easy was it to change the photo? Think about photos you see online. Why is it important to know when something has been edited?

Step 4: Design a digital community

Values are things people believe are important. Think of the Girl Scout Law. It reminds us to be friendly and helpful. It asks us to be honest and fair. You can follow these values in a troop meeting. You can use them online, too.

What people do shows their values. You recycle if you care about nature. You might help at an animal rescue if you care about and love animals.

People's values show online, too. They might email a thank you. They might give money to protect the rainforest. They might share a story they care about.

So, what are your values? How do you act on your values, online and offline? How can you use those values to be a digital leader?

Choices—do one:

Act on your values. People all value different things. Think of times you've acted on your values, online and offline. For example, what if someone had different online values than you? What if someone wasn't telling the truth in an email? What if someone was unkind in a video game? Brainstorm different online situations. Then act out how you'd respond with your values!

Build community with music. Music can bring people together. Listen to and identify the message of different songs. Then, make your own song about what you value. Sing about friendship, family, or anything you care about. Record your song. Sing it at an event. Ask a trusted adult to help you edit it or share it online.

► **For more fun:**
Film a music video for
your song.

Create a Girl Scout mural. Look at each line of the Girl Scout Law. How do you see these values in the real world? How do they work online? Make a poster or mural (if you have permission) with your troop or Girl Scout friends. Paint what's important to your Girl Scout community. Paint how you treat one another. Paint how technology helps you connect. Have your troop leader or trusted adult share photos of your mural online with other Girl Scouts.

Let Your Values Guide You

You're a digital leader. You set an example for others. If you stick to your values in the real world and online, you can make both worlds better.

Here are some examples:

- **You value safety.** You ask before going outside or online. You don't talk to strangers in the real world or online. If a person you don't know contacts you, you tell an adult, like your parents.
- **You value honesty.** You're careful to only say things that are true. You ask questions if you aren't sure. In the digital world, you also need to be sure that what you're saying, or sharing, is true.
- **You value kindness.** You welcome new kids and help if someone's being bullied. You do this online, too. You tell an adult if someone is being bullied online. You listen and help your friend.

My top values are:

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Step 5: Create content for change

Technology can help leaders make a difference. They can share ideas. They can teach others. They can create digital content.

Digital content is something made with or for technology. It could be a website. It could be a video. It can be just for fun, like a game, or be helpful. It can share ideas. It can teach people. It can inspire people to make a difference, too.

What's something you care about? This will be your topic. Find out more about it. Then use technology to create digital content to tell others about it. That's how you become a digital leader!

Choices—do one:

Make a slideshow. What do you want others to know about your topic? How can other people help solve the problem? Sketch out each page of your slideshow. Then use an app or computer program to create it.

Make a poster. Posters catch people's attention. They include photos, art, and words. They can be printed or shared online. They can be funny or surprising or get people thinking. What do you want others to know about your topic? Design a poster to share your message. Make sure to include how others can help!

Make any kind of digital content. How can you tell others about your topic? How can you inspire them to help? You could make a video to teach people or share an important message. You could ask your friends and family to help by email. You're a digital leader. The message and how you put it out there are up to you!

Important note:

If you want to share your project online, ask a trusted adult to share for you.

Your Digital Toolbox

Making digital content is fun. It can solve problems, too. For example, you can:

- Teach others with a video or slideshow.
- Invite people to an event with an email.
- Tell friends and family an important message.
- Make a poster or digital art to share an idea.

How can you be a digital leader? Choose a goal. Then find the best tool for the job.



You're
Invited.



Join Us!



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