

Tech Time Handout: Internet Basics

Goal: Develop a familiarity with how the internet works, how to access it, and how to find a variety of different resources on it.

Topics:

1. Accessing the internet: wired access via ethernet cable, wireless access at home or in public, or access through 4G on a smartphone.
 - a. Computer internet browsers: Edge, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari.
 - b. Handheld device: typically through apps: Firefox, Chrome, or Safari.
2. Finding answers on the internet: using search engines (most commonly: Google).
 - a. Searching for websites, images, addresses (Google Maps), phone numbers.
 - b. Looking up definitions (define:____), or searching for information (Wikipedia).
3. Checking email: on your computer, phone, or tablet.
4. Being secure on the internet: using different passwords for every website, and maintaining secure, not easily guessable passwords.
 - a. Managing passwords: different passwords on different sites, password managers, use multiple words for passwords.
 - b. Common security risks: phishing emails and disreputable vendors and websites.
5. Library website resources: online databases (UniversalClass), library catalog, and local historical and genealogical information.

Homework:

Check your email or do a few Google searches a day to get familiar with your web browser. Register for Computer Basics 101 on Universal Class and work through a few lessons.