

Grade 5: Review using communication

The Internet is everywhere in your life. Your school, home and public services are all connected to the Internet. Also, with your computer you can communicate with friends of yours that have computers too. How do all these computers communicate? Through the Internet, of course! This way, you can exchange files, send email, chat, etc. This connection between the two computers is made either through cables or wirelessly

When two or more computers communicate, you have a computer network. There are two types of networks depending on the location of the connected computer:

A Local Area Network (LAN) is a small network. Usually it's not bigger than a classroom, a floor or a building. Your school may have a LAN.

A Wide Area Network (WAN) is a large network. Usually, it's a network that covers two cities or two countries for example, a huge multinational company uses a WAN to connect its offices around the world.

You can find a lot of music and movies on the Internet, but this doesn't mean that everything is free to copy

Search engines

The Internet is huge and it's not always easy to find the information that you want. But don't worry. You can use search engines to find what you need.

Search engines are web sites where you can type words or phrases and find other web sites that contain information related to these words or phrases. There are several search engines available today, but the most popular is Google.

In order to have better search results, type more than one word, to make your search more specific. For example, "desert animals" or "animals of the jungle" instead of the general term "animals." Search engines are very clever and try to find the best websites for you. If you want to search for websites that contain a particular phrase, then you should type it inside quotation marks.

To use a search engine:

- Open a web browser (e.g. Microsoft Edge).
- In the Address box, type google.com.
- The Google search engine will appear.
- In the search text box, type the subject you want to find. For example, desert animals and press Enter
- A list will appear with websites containing the word "desert animals".
- Click the website or the photo you think is more relevant and this will appear on your screen.

Favorites

If there is a website that you want to visit often, you can add it to the list of your favorites.

To add a website to Favorites:

- Go to the website you like.
- Click the Add to favorites or reading list button.
- The Favorites task panel will appear.

- Write a Name for this website click Add.
- Now you can access this website easily and quickly, without having to use the search engine. Just click the Favourite button 6 and choose the web site you want on the Favourites task pane.

You can organize your favourite websites in folders.

You can use categories like sports, study, games, etc.

Cool stuff with Google

As time passes, search engines are becoming more and more useful for learning and understanding things, not only for searching for websites. With their help, you can now find definitions for words, translate web pages or even solve difficult mathematics equations.

To define words and find synonyms:

- Open a browser.
- Go to www.google.com.
- In the search box, type define or definition or what is and the word that you want to define.
- Press Enter
- The definition of the word will appear on your screen.

The Internet can be used as a useful source of educational material When you download photos, videos, music or text from the Internet, remember to point out the source of your material.

HISTORY

The technology we use for the network behind the Internet today was developed in the 60s. ARPANET (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) could send "packages" of data and connected four universities in 1969!

To translate a word, phrase or text:

- Open a browser.
- Go to <https://translate.google.com>.
- In the Translate from drop-down combo box, click the language you want to translate from.
- In the Translate to drop-down combo box, click the language you want to translate to.
- In the Translate from text box, type or copy/ paste the text or the URL you want to translate.
- Google will automatically translate the text and your text will be translated into the language that you choose.

In the Translate! from drop-down combo box, the Detect Language option is by default enabled, so Google will automatically find the language you're using.

To calculate math equations:

- Open a browser.
- Go to www.google.com.
- In the search box, type the equation you want to solve.
- Press Enter to see the solution to your equation.

To convert currency:

- Open a browser.
- Go to www.google.com.
- In the search box, type "currency converter". 2

- In the task pane, write 3 the amount.
- In the Convert currencies drop-down box, click the currency you want to convert from.
- In the Convert currencies drop- down box, click the currency you want to convert to. 5
- Press Enter to see the result.

Communication tools

You know what the Internet is and how to use it to search for information. But do you know that it is also a very powerful communication tool? You can use various programs to communicate with your friends via text, sound or even video.

Email

You are already familiar with this type of technology and you can use email to send your news to your friends wherever they are. You can also send them photos, small videos or any other file you want. To do this, you can use a web based email system, like Gmail and Yahoo, or you can use a program like Mail.

It doesn't matter if the recipient is living on the same street or in another country. Your friends will receive the message in a few seconds.

Don't sit in front of the computer and talk with your friends for hours. You can always meet them and hang out together if you have finished your homework.

Chat

Chatting, or instant messaging, is a very common way of communicating through the Internet. Through instant messaging, you can send a small message to a friend or to your whole class.

The message appears immediately on their screen and they can reply right away.

A very popular program for chatting is Skype. This program is free and you can download it from the Internet. In order to use it though, you need to create a Skype account. You can also start Skype using your Facebook or Microsoft account.

Smart tip

It's easy to keep in touch with your Facebook friends on Skype. First, you need to connect your Skype account to Facebook, and then you can contact your Facebook friends.

To search for a friend:

- In the Search Skype box, type the email address or the Skype name of your friend and press Enter
- A list of matching profiles will be displayed on the left side of the screen. Click the friend you want to add in order to display their profile information.

To block an unknown person:

- Right-click on the contact.
- In the pop-up window, click View Profile.
- In the profile window that appears, click Block Contact.

To chat with a friend:

- In the Contacts list, find the friend you want to chat with and click on their name.
- Click inside the conversation box. Type the text you want to send and click the blue Send icon or simply press Enter.
- Your friend will receive your message by clicking the Recent Chats tab.
- That's it! This is your first chat.

If a friend is offline, you can still send them a message. It will be received when they go online.

To create a translated chat:

- In the Contacts list, right click on your contact and click View Profile.
- Click Start translator.
- Choose the language you want for you and for your foreign friend.
- That's it! A new translated chat will be created.

The first emoticons (emojis) were used in casual and humorous writing in the 19th century. Digital emoticons on the Internet were first included in a proposal by Scott Fahlman, a computer scientist at Carnegie Mellon University in 1982.

When you want to chat with more than one person at the same time, you can create a group of people. For example, if you are on a sports team, you can make a group with your teammates and talk about yesterday's game.

To create a group:

- Click on the Create new group button in the top right corner.
- In the Add to Group window, click on the friends you want to add and then click Done.
- That's it! Simply write and send your first instant message and it will be sent to all members in the group.

Anytime a member of the group sends an instant message, it will be received by all the participants, allowing them to chat and share files with each other, all at the same time.

When you create a group, you can change the Group profile in order to make it more recognizable. For example, you could change the group's profile picture to one of your choice.

When you use Skype, your status lets your friends know if you're available for chatting. It's set automatically, but you can change it manually at any time. Just click your status icon next to your profile picture and choose the right status from the list.

Video calls and voice calls

Another cool feature of Skype is that it allows you to make voice calls and video calls. So, if you have a friend who is far away on vacation or has moved to another city, you can still keep in contact with them as if they had never left!

To make a video call:

- Choose one of your contacts.
- Click the Video call icon.
- The connection process will start. When the other person accepts your call, the camera and the microphone will open. Now you are ready!

You can call any phone number you want using Skype. But keep in mind that you need to pay for calls or text messages to real phone numbers.