



Password Strategies Volunteer Guide

Description

In this session, families will tackle one of today’s biggest concerns—passwords! During the activity they will answer some basic questions about password safety; create a new password using one of the methods below; and commit to updating their passwords for online security. At the end of the activity participants will write their thoughts and reflections on the poster paper. You will present the poster for 30 seconds at the end of the night.

Activity Time

15 minutes

Resources Needed

- 1 Volunteer Leader
- 1 copy of the Password Creation Game Handout per pair (50 handouts for 100 attendees)
- Desks and tables for pairs to sit together
- Pens for each table/desk
- Timer
- 1 poster paper for wrap up comments

Directions to Start the Activity Session

Welcome families as they enter your activity session. Help them sit together in pairs. Pass out the Password Creation Game Handout. When everyone has arrived at your station, use the script below to introduce the activity.

To start the activity, SAY:

Hello, my name is _____. Having secure passwords that you do not share is one of the most important steps to online safety. Over the next 15 minutes, we will talk about our current password practices, and try a few fun methods to create new passwords that are almost unbreakable! First, let’s talk about our current passwords. Listen to these questions:

- Do you use the same password for more than one thing?
- Does your password mention a number that would be easy to guess like your birthday?
- Does your password use your name?



Now, turn to your partner to answer the questions. They are listed on your handout if you need a reminder.

[Walk around the room and remind families of the three questions. After 1-2 minutes use your school's attention sign to bring families back together (raising hands, clap pattern, etc.) and continue with the script]

What a great discussion! Did anyone answer yes to any of those questions? Raise your hand if you think you could figure out a person's password if they used that information.

The handout I just gave you will help you with three ideas on how to create a secure password. Read the handout together. Try coming up with new passwords to match each section!

[Set a timer for 10 minutes. Walk around the room and help families discuss the handout together.]

After 5 minutes SAY:

You have five minutes left.

After 8 minutes SAY:

You have two minutes left.

Close the Session

After 10 minutes SAY:

Times up! Thanks everybody. Now that you have completed the different methods of building passwords, which ones do you prefer and why?

[If tech setup is available, have teams come up with the best password they can think of that is easy to remember and hard to guess, and have them test it at: <https://howsecureismypassword.net/>. Whichever team wins (i.e. has the longest time to guess the password) gets a prize!]

Please take two minutes now to write a thought, reflection or something you learned from the session today on the poster paper. I will sign your passport when you are ready.

Close the Activities

At the end of the third session, SAY:

Please take out your phones at this time and open the survey that was sent to you by the PTA when you registered for this event. We will have a few minutes in the close out session to complete this as well.



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