**Digital Literacy Grade 11, Lesson 3,** “College Bound” (Adapted from Common Sense Media)

**Lesson Objectives**:

•Learn that they have a public presence online called a digital footprint.

•Recognize that any information they post online can help or hurt their image & future opportunities, including their chances for college admission or employment.

•consider how to present an authentic and positive image of themselves online.

**Essential Question:**

*How can information you post on the Internet affect your future opportunities?*

**Key Vocabulary**:

**•digital footprint**: all of the information about a person that can be found online

**•admission**: to let in or to be given entrance

**•candidate**: someone seeking entrance to a school or placement in a job, usually competing with others for the position

**Warm Up**:

**Introduce the vocabulary** and discuss with students how the information in a **digital footprint** becomes public by being copied and passed on so that it can be searched and viewed by a large, invisible audience. This information is often permanently online, because it is archived in a variety of ways and passed on by others.

**Show the video**: “Abbas’s Story – Pride in Your Digital Footprint”



**Discussion**:

1. What were some of the messages that stood out to you in this video? Can you relate to Abbas? Why or why not?

2. Abbas says that he thinks colleges would actually “kind of like his Facebook page.” What examples does Abbas give about how he has created a positive digital footprint for himself?

*These may include: He posts a lot of family pictures, lots of positive messages on his statuses that include his volunteer work and the music he creates.*

3. Do you think you should judge someone based solely on what you find about them online?

**Wrap up**:

1. How is a digital footprint created? Why does the information in a digital footprint often become public, and why is it permanent?

*Students should know that a digital footprint is all the information online about a person, posted either by that person or by others. The information in it can become public because it can be searched, copied, and passed on so that it plays to a large invisible audience. It can be difficult or impossible to remove, and it therefore becomes a permanent part of their online image.*

2. What types of online information would help present the most positive image of you?

3. What are some of the larger ethical implications of sharing information online about others?

*Guide students to reflect on how people can influence the digital footprints of others – for better or for worse – and how it is therefore the responsibility of a good digital citizen to be mindful of what they post about others*