**Digital Literacy Grade 9, Lesson 2 Copyrights and Wrongs**, (adapted from Common Sense Media)

**Learning Objectives**: •identify the legal and ethical considerations involved in using the creative work of others. •understand an individual’s rights and responsibilities as a creator and consumer of content. • practice critical thinking and ethical decision making about the use of creative works.

**Essential Question:**

*How can I make responsible choices when I use other people’s creative work?*

**Key Words:**

•fair use: the ability to use a small amount of someone’s creative work without permission, but only in certain ways.

•commercial purposes: a use in connection with a business, usually for profit.

•copyright: a law that protects a creator’s ownership of and control over the work he or she creates, requiring other people to get the creator’s permission before they copy, share, or perform that work.

•Creative Commons: a kind of copyright that makes it easy for people to copy, share, and build on someone’s creative work – as long as they give the creator credit for it.  This is the Creative Commons logo

**•public domain**: creative work that’s not protected by copyright and is therefore free for one to use however one wants.

**Procedure:**

**Warm up:**

•What do you think we mean when we talk about someone’s creative work?

•Have you ever used creative work you found online, for example, a photo or poem – for personal use?

**Play this video (double click to run)**

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**Discussion & Wrap Up:**

1. What are the ways you can be respectful of people’s creative work?

•Check who owns it

•Get permission to use it

•Give credit to the creator

•Buy it (if necessary)

•Use it responsibly

2. *How would you feel if someone used your creative work? Would it make a difference if they asked your permission to use it or gave you credit as the creator?*

Make sure students understand that fair use allows them to use only a small part of someone else’s creative work as part of something new. The work cannot be used for commercial purposes, and it can only be used in certain ways, which include: • schoolwork and education • news reporting • criticism or social commentary • comedy or parody

3. *What are some ways you might use creative work that would constitute fair use?*

Students should understand that using a small amount of someone else’s work in a school report or the school paper would be fair use, while posting it on their blog or on a social networking site would not be fair use.

4. *If you created a picture, poem, or video and posted it online, would you make people get your permission every time they used the work, use a Creative Commons license, or put it in the public domain?*  (various answers)

5. *When you are writing a paper for class is it correct to copy and paste from websites or printed work? What should you do?* Discuss using citations and a complete bibliography of sources used.