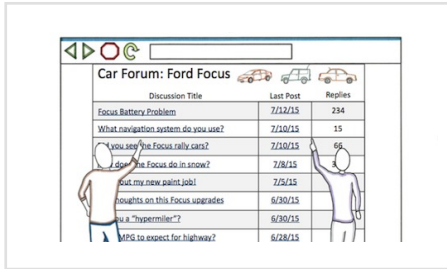


Lesson Plan

This lesson plan is designed to help you teach using a Common Craft video. Use the information below to introduce the video and then follow the video with discussion questions and other resources.



commoncraft.com/video/online-discussion-forums

ISTE Standard:

**Creative Communicator,
Indicator 6d**

ACRL Info Literacy Frame:

**Information Has Value,
Scholarship as Conversation,
Information Creation as a
Process**

Online Discussion Forums

Explained by Common Craft

In the real world, we depend on discussions for learning and socializing. It's how we relate to one another. The same happens on the Web. Discussion forums give us a reliable way to organize and discover information from communication among people anywhere in the world.

Learning Outcomes

- Explain how the Internet allows people with like interests from all over the world to share in conversations and form communities
- Define terms related to discussion forums such as threads, lurkers, and moderators
- Describe how discussion forums and threads are organized
- Describe what is required to read and post to a discussion forum and best practices when participating in a discussion forum for the first time

Discussion Questions

Q #1

What discussion forums have you used before? When have they been the most useful?

Q #2

When sharing ideas with other people around the world, in which situations would you use an online discussion forum versus a video chat or another form of communication? Explain why.

Q #3

If you were to create an online discussion forum, what approach would you have to cultivating a productive and dedicated community for it?

Knowledge Check Q&A

Q

What is an online discussion forum?

A

It is a website where people can post and reply to each other in discussion. Each individual discussion is called a topic or thread. When responses come, they appear under the first post, usually with the oldest on top.

Q

What are lurkers?

A

These are people who follow the topics of a forum but don't post very often.

Q

What are moderators?

A

These are people who maintain and protect the forum.

Resources for Learning More

Digital Trends

Jacob O’Gara

“Reddit 101: A beginner’s guide to the front page of the Internet”

9/29/2014

<https://www.digitaltrends.com/social-media/reddit-101/>

Wired

Davey Alba

“Reddit’s Future is the Future of the Internet” 7/15/2015

<https://www.wired.com/2015/07/reddits-future-future-internet/>

eLearning

Christoforos Pappas

“10 netiquette tips for online discussions” 6/6/2015

<https://elearningindustry.com/10-netiquette-tips-online-discussions>

Cornell University

Center for Teaching Innovation

“Online discussions” 9/2017

<https://www.cte.cornell.edu/teaching-ideas/teaching-with-technology/online-discussions.html>

New Statesman

Amelia Tait

“Someone would always answer: The sad death of the internet message board” 2/9/2017

<http://www.newstatesman.com/science-tech/internet/2017/02/someone-would-always-answer-sad-death-internet-message-board>

New York Times (opinion)

Virginia Heffernan

“The Old Internet Neighborhoods” 7/10/2011

<https://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/07/10/remembrance-of-message-boards-past/?mcubz=0>