Digital Leaders

Our Digital Leaders are planning a coding club for the summer term for Year 3 and 4 children.

Online Safety Newsletter Spring 2

BBC iPlayer for Children

Children under the age of 13 can have their own iPlayer profile, which includes content from CBBC, CBeebies and other suitable BBC programmes.

You can download the iPlayer app and then find out how to create a profile here: https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/help/questions/about-the-childrensexperience/iplayer-child-experience

Going on a long journey?

The BBC have also compiled a list of shows and films as well as games and quizzes to make the journey go quicker: https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/watch/best-films-games-and-quizzes-to-keepkids-entertained-on-long-journeys

Social Media Algorithms

What is an algorithm?

Social media algorithms shape what users see by predicting the kind of content they're most likely to engage with, which helps keep them on the platform longer. They analyze data such as who you follow, what you search for and the posts you watch, like, or share to figure out your interests. Based on this, the algorithm prioritizes and displays similar content more frequently—for instance, on Instagram's Explore page

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What do I need to Know?

Although algorithms have advantages—such as showing us content we're more likely to enjoy—they also come with drawbacks. They can encourage longer screen time by continuously presenting material that holds our attention. In addition, they may expose users to significant amounts of inappropriate or harmful content, which can, for example, worsen body image issues or increase exposure to misogynistic ideas. Another concern is the creation of "echo chambers," where users mainly see content that reinforces their existing views instead of a more balanced range of perspectives.

Further information

- *https://cybersmarties.com/behind-the-screen-how-algorithmsshape-what-kids-see-online/*
- *The BBC discuss algorithms in this article about doomscrolling: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zwnk3qt*