

## Project Summary Page

### **Purpose of the Project:**

The goal of this project is to teach teens about digital citizenship, focusing on catfishing and the ways to identify it and prevent it. Catfishing has a negative impact on people because it can make them give up personal information and lose money. According to MTV's catfishing episode 73% of people use photos of someone else online. 83 million Facebook accounts are fake according to the website [www.datingadvise.com](http://www.datingadvise.com). Because so many people use social media every day, we want people to know the signs so they can protect their personal information and money.

### **Relationship to the Area of Family and Consumer Sciences:**

Our goal relates to Family and Consumer Sciences Education Standard 2.4: Evaluate the effects of technology on individual and family resources in a global context. Its important for people to learn about technology safely and how to use it wisely. That way knowing the signs of catfishing can protect people and families from losing money and personal information.

### **Relevant Research:**

To find information about catfishing we, of course, turned to the internet. We found more information on catfishing with dating and fake relationships than we did about financial scams. Most people are not trying to gain money, they are trying to hurt people. That can lead to depression, and our country has a big problem with depression. We should use the internet for communicating and meeting new, real people.

### **Background Information:**

Most students connect with people online through different types of social media. Sometimes people will lie about who they really are to get people of all ages to give them money or personal information. That is called catfishing and it is illegal. 53% of Americans fabricate parts of their

dating profile, and more than half of online daters believe they've seen someone else present false information in their profile. The most common motivation for catfishing is revenge, loneliness, or boredom. So it is important to teach people to know what to look for and how to escape a catfishing event.

**Change or Awareness Goal of Project:**

We are glad we did this project because it taught us how hard it is to make and edit a video. Also how easy it is to create a fake identity online. We learned how to make a project together.