

Lesson: Do You Know the Algorithm? The Algorithm Knows You

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade: 6th, 7th, 8th

Teacher(s): Alexa Tigre **School:** Highland Middle School

LESSON ELEMENT	STUDENT-FRIENDLY TRANSLATION (# 2,3,4 only)
<p>1. Common Core Learning Standard(s) Addressed:</p> <p>SSS2.6-8.2 Evaluate the breadth, reliability, and credibility of primary and secondary sources to determine the need for new or additional information when researching an issue or event.</p>	
<p>2. Learning Target(s): (What will students know & be able to do as a result of this lesson?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will understand that search engines and social media websites use algorithms to decide what information is shared with them; • Students will understand that they may not have as much information as they think they have 	<p>Websites like Google, YouTube, Facebook, and TikTok don't show you everything- what you see may be different from what someone else sees!</p>
<p>3. Relevance/Rationale: (Why are the outcomes of this lesson important in the real world? Why are these outcomes essential for future learning?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern social media and search engines limit what is shared based on algorithms designed to maximize profit for the companies. This can limit what information people have for forming opinions, especially when it comes to things like politics and health. It is important for students to be able to analyze not just the information they are seeing, but HOW it is being shared with them, and why it may NOT be shared with them. 	<p>All around us, people are making decisions about important things like who to vote for and vaccines, but they often don't have all the information, even though they think they do. It is important to understand that search engines and social media don't always give us all the information!</p>
<p>4. Formative Assessment Criteria for Success: (How will you & your students know if they have successfully met the outcomes? What specific criteria will be met in a successful product/process? What does success on this lesson's outcomes look like?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class discussion • Exit Ticket 	<p>Let's discuss why this matters.</p>
<p>(see next page)</p>	

5. Activities/Tasks: (What learning experiences will students engage in? How will you use these learning experiences or their student products as formative assessment opportunities?)

- Students will move through a Google slide show that includes TikTok videos for them to interact with
 - *The Google Slide Show gives simple explanation of social media and search engine algorithm
 - *Students are then asked to watch some videos and choose their favorites
 - *The Google Slide Show uses a “choose your own adventure” format that funnels students to different videos based on their choices
 - *Students are asked to answer two questions, but because the “choose your own adventure” format funnels them to different videos based on their choices, they can only answer one question, demonstrating how algorithms can limit what they see
 - *The class can then discuss the implications of social media and search engines limiting what they see
- Class discussion about questions raised in the slide show
- Exit Ticket questions about the impact of the algorithms

6. Resources/Materials: (What texts, digital resources, & materials will be used in this lesson?)

- Google Slide Show that includes TikTok videos:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1vZAEKbBBPua7GiQcGwY_4zfLp3aNubu2IRdAOyLL_U/edit?usp=sharing

7. Access for All: (How will you ensure that all students have access to and are able to engage appropriately in this lesson? Consider all aspects of student diversity.)

- Google Slide Show can be accessed as a class together using a classroom projector, or the link can be shared with students to use outside of class if they have computer and internet available

8. Modifications/Accommodations: (What curriculum modifications and/or classroom accommodations will you make for Students with Disabilities in your class? Be as specific as possible.)

- Browser can read aloud text for visually impaired
- In classroom display can be read aloud or read by students