

Intro to Copyright: Presentation Notes

“Violating copyright is now faster and easier than it’s ever been. A computer program, file, or digital image copies in seconds, whereas copying print materials requires a trip to the photocopier.” (Simpson, Carol. "Are you the copy cop? Why copyright violations happen in schools and how to prevent them." *Learning & Leading with Technology*. (2005): Web. 9 Sep. 2011. <<http://www.iste.org>>.)



Copyright in a nutshell: Teachers and students must determine, *for themselves*, if their use of copyrighted materials (music, photos, written articles, poems, videos, etc) is a Fair Use. Copyright law gives us Four Guidelines for Fair Use to guide our decisions, however, it is the responsibility of the user to determine if his/her use is a fair use.

If your use is a fair use, no permission from the copyright holder is needed. However, you should always cite your sources and give credit to the copyright holder.

You will find this 9-minute video created by Kim Ackerman, Adams12 Library Services Coordinator, and Tricia LaRue, Adams12 Teacher-Librarian, informative and excellent reinforcement of basic copyright principles.

<http://youtube/NRpT3F4sEzU>

Guidelines for Fair Use:

Fair Use Doctrine of Copyright Law, 1976 says you must consider these FOUR factors when using someone else’s work:

1. The purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes
 - did you transform the work from its original purpose and meaning?
2. The nature of the copyrighted work
 - facts, creative, consumable?
3. The amount used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole
 - did you use only as much as necessary for your purpose?
4. The effect of the use upon the potential market for the copyrighted work
 - Will you make a profit from your use of someone else’s work?



*suggestion: Practice using these 4 factors to determine Fair Use in different common school scenarios.

Use this Checklist for Fair Use from Columbia University to help.

<http://copyright.columbia.edu/copyright/files/2009/10/fairusechecklist.pdf>

Their site explains the purpose of the checklist and has links to other resources:

<http://copyright.columbia.edu/copyright/fair-use/fair-use-checklist/>

Whenever possible, you may direct your students to use works in the Public Domain – those which are copyright-free either because they are old or because the owner freely shares them.

Links to suggested copyright-free resources for students:

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

<http://creativecommons.org/>

*many vendors offer copyright-free materials for students but some charge a fee.

More information for Teachers:

Turning digital Natives into Digital Citizens – an article by Dave Saltman, with links to copyright-free sites and student tools. <http://classroomaid.visibli.com/share/hHpVFO>