

Copyright



Copyright—what is it?

- Copyright is the law that protects the writing, pictures, songs, and websites of authors, artists, composers and others from being used without permission.
- **EVERYTHING** you (or another person) creates is copyrighted and protected as soon as you make it.

So I can't copy things from the Web for a report?

- No, you can't. It is called **PLAIGIARISM** if you use someone else's work as your own.
- BUT you might be able to use **some** of it—if it's for school.
- This is called **Fair Use**. But there are rules....



What are the rules?

You can use someone else's work IF:

1. You **put it in your own words.**

OR

2. You get **permission** from the creator.

OR

3. You **say who the creator is.**



What about PICTURES?

- **Yes**, pictures and photos are copyrighted too. Someone created them and they should get credit for them.
- You can note at the end of your report where the picture came from.
- Some websites won't allow you to copy pictures. That is their right as the artist.



What about MUSIC?

- **Yes**, music is copyrighted too. Someone created it and he/she should get credit for it.
- Rules for music are a little different. You can usually only use part of a song.
- If you do, you need to note at the end of your report where the music came from.



What about GOOGLE?

- Google is not a source for pictures. It is a search engine—a tool—that gathers images from other websites.
- It's like if you need something from the store. Google is not the store. Google is the car that you ride in to get to the store.
- If you use an image from Google, you need to say where it came from.

The Google logo is displayed in its characteristic multi-colored font, with the letters G, o, o, g, l, e in blue, red, yellow, blue, green, and red respectively.

What about CLIP ART?

- Clip art is **different**. Clip art from our computer programs is created to be used by many people.
- You do not need to say where those pictures or sounds came from.



Who will know or care?

- You will! What is the right thing to do?



- Besides, what if you were the creator? What if you made something, but people were copying it and saying it was theirs? How would you feel?