

Media Masters Rock – BONUS LESSON Study Guide

Critical Thinking Characters: Think First Before You Click!

Grade Level: 3rd Grade

Length: 25–30 minutes

Alabama DLCS Alignment (Grade 3)

- **3.DL.1** – Use safe, responsible, and ethical behaviors when using digital tools
- **3.DL.2** – Identify credible vs. non-credible information online
- **3.CC.1** – Demonstrate beginning critical thinking when evaluating digital messages
- **3.CC.2** – Explain why people share information online (motives, accuracy, influence)
- **3.RA.1** – Apply self-control when reacting online

Before Watching the Video

Teacher/Librarian Says:

“Today we’re going to meet the Critical Thinking Characters — each one makes a different mistake when they’re online. You get to decide how to fix their mistakes using Media Master Moves. This lesson helps you think carefully, check for truth, and choose kindness when you’re online.”

Ask:

- “Why is it important to think before you click?”
- “Have you ever believed something online that wasn’t true?”
- “Do you think some people share things online before checking them?”

Watch the Video

Title: BONUS LESSON – *Critical Thinking Characters: Think First Before You Click*

Run Time: 2–4 minutes

Listening Focus for Grade 3:

“Listen for each character’s MISTAKE and the MEDIA MASTER MOVE that would fix it. You’ll use these during our activity.”



After Watching – Discussion Questions

1. “Which character made the most common mistake you’ve seen online?”
2. “How could Scroll Zombie Zack take control of his screen time?”
3. “Why is Re-Post Robot’s mistake dangerous?”
4. “Why is reading only headlines a problem?”
5. “Which Media Master Move do YOU think is the most important? Why?”

Encourage students to support their answers with simple reasoning:

- “Because it helps you find the truth.”
- “Because being kind online matters.”
- “Because reacting fast can make things worse.”

** Activity:

Critical Thinking Characters Challenge!**

Objective: Identify mistakes, match solutions, and explain Media Master behavior.

Materials: Pencil, worksheet, or notebook

Part 1 – Match the Character to the Mistake

Provide students with this list (or project it on the board):

Characters

1. Scroll Zombie Zack
2. Captain Knee-Jerk
3. Meme Believer Cassy
4. Headline Harry
5. Re-Post Robot
6. Mean Maddy

7. Snap Judgment Sammy

Mistakes

- A. Believes everything after watching one short video
- B. Shares posts without checking truth
- C. Only reads the title and believes it
- D. Makes hurtful comments
- E. Reacts too quickly
- F. Scrolls too long without thinking
- G. Thinks every meme online is a fact

Student Task:

Write the correct letter next to each character.

Part 2 – Fix-It! Choose the Right Media Master Move

Media Master Moves:

- “Pause and breathe — don’t react instantly.”
- “Check it before you share it.”
- “Take breaks — you control the screen.”
- “Choose kindness when you post.”
- “Be curious — ask questions before believing it.”
- “Read the whole story, not just the title.”

Student Task:

Match each character to the correct Media Master Move.

Part 3 – Apply It! (Short Answer)

Choose **one** character and complete the prompt:

“____ made the mistake of _____. To fix it, they should _____. This makes them a Media Master because _____. ”

Example:

“Headline Harry believed a silly title. To fix it, he should read the whole article. This makes him a Media Master because he checks for truth.”

** **Optional Extension Activity:**

True, Tricky, or Unkind?**

Create cards or display short examples such as:

- “You should ignore new students.”
- “A meme saying cats can drive cars.”
- “A post sharing a real safety tip.”
- “A video claiming pizza grows on trees.”

Students Sort Into:

- ✓ **TRUE**
- ✓ **TRICKY (check it first)**
- ✓ **UNKIND (don't share it)**

This reinforces truth-checking and digital kindness.



Wrap-Up

Teacher/Librarian Says:

“You just learned how to fix each character’s mistake with Media Master Moves! Remember — **THINK FIRST** before you click, **CHECK FOR TRUTH** before you share, and **CHOOSE KINDNESS** when you post.”

Call-and-Response:

Teacher: “When you see something online...”

Students: “**THINK FIRST!**”

Teacher: “Before you click share...”

Students: “**CHECK FOR TRUTH!**”

Teacher: “And when you post...”

Students: “**CHOOSE KINDNESS!**”

“Great job today, Media Masters — smart thinkers make the internet better!”

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