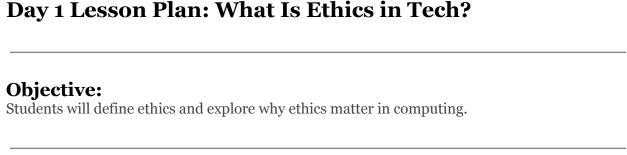
4565: Computing Foundations for a Digital Age Unit 5
Day 1 Laggar Dlan. What Is Ethias in T.



# **Word Bytes (Key Terms & Definitions)**

- **Ethics** A system of moral principles that guide decisions about what is right or fair in a given situation.
- Unintended Consequences Results of a decision or action that weren't planned and may have unexpected impact.
- **Ethical Dilemma** A situation where someone must choose between two or more options, each with potential benefits or harms.

## **Materials**

- Printed or projected real-world tech headlines
- Optional: student journal or notebook for project reflection
- Space for movement (optional ethics spectrum activity)

# Warm-Up: Tech Dilemmas - Would You Rather?

e a few "Would you rather?" questions and invite students to respond, then discuss:  Would you rather give up your smartphone for a year or share your browsing history with the world?
☐ Would you rather have a chip implanted for convenience or carry a dozen passwords?
f class discussion about how each choice involves trade-offs. Connect this to the ethical decisions.

Mini-Lesson: What Is Ethics?

## **Step 1: Framing the Concept**

Ask students:

 "Have you ever had to make a decision where both choices had upsides and downsides?"

Give students time to reflect and pair-share. Then define ethics:

- **Ethics** = a system of moral principles that help us decide what's fair, responsible, and just.
- Emphasize: Ethics doesn't always have a clear "right" answer—it's about making thoughtful choices.

## **Step 2: Connecting to Technology**

Ask:

• "Why do you think ethics matters when it comes to technology?"

Guide the conversation toward understanding that:

- Tech decisions impact real people.
- Designers and users both make choices that have consequences.
- Sometimes there are **unintended consequences**—outcomes no one meant to cause.

#### **Example:**

- Facial recognition may work better on light-skinned faces than dark-skinned ones.
- Even if unintentional, it causes harm. That's an ethical issue.

#### **Step 3: Defining Key Terms with Examples**

Term	Description	Example
Ethics	Deciding what's fair, responsible, and just	Should schools use AI to monitor students for cheating?
Unintended Consequences	Side effects that weren't intended	A fitness app leaks user location data
Ethical Dilemma	A tough choice where each option has risks	Sharing user data to stop a crime vs. protecting privacy

Invite students to share more examples from their own experience or the news.

## **Step 4: Check for Understanding**

#### Prompt:

• "If you were designing a new app for teens, what ethical questions should you think about before launching it?"

Encourage student responses like:

- Should it collect user data?
- Is it accessible for people with disabilities?
- Could it be addictive?

## **Optional Extension (if time allows):**

**Ethics Spectrum** – Read a prompt aloud and have students move to spots along a line (Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree). Discuss choices.

#### Example prompt:

• "It's okay for schools to monitor students' online activity outside of school hours."

#### **Activity: Real Headlines, Real Decisions**

Display 2–3 headlines for student discussion, such as:

- "School District Uses Facial Recognition for Safety"
- "TikTok Banned on Government Devices"
- "ChatGPT Raises Concerns in Classrooms"

Have students work in small groups or partners to discuss:

- What is the ethical dilemma here?
- Who is affected?
- What are the risks or benefits?

Groups share out with the class.

## **Project Launch: Ethical Technology Case Study**

Introduce the unit project:

- "Throughout this unit, you'll investigate real-world technology and explore its ethical implications. You'll learn about bias, privacy, accessibility, and more—then take a stance on whether your tech is truly ethical."
- Show a sample or mini case (e.g., facial recognition and privacy). Reassure students they don't need to pick a topic today—but should start thinking.

## **Optional Student Journal Prompt:**

• List 2–3 technologies you use that might raise ethical questions.

#### **Exit Ticket**

- What's one tech-related decision you've made that involved ethics—even a small one?
- Students can write about anything from posting online to using apps or choosing settings.

## **Word Bytes (Student-Friendly Examples)**

- **Ethics** I chose not to repost a video because it showed someone in a vulnerable moment
- **Unintended Consequences** I used a filter that accidentally made a friend feel excluded.
- **Ethical Dilemma** I had to choose between telling on a friend for cheating or staying quiet.

