



CyberPatriot Engagement Guide:
Elementary School Programs

Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative
Cyber Education Literature Series



CyberPatriot – A program of the Air Force Association

CyberPatriot Program Overview

CyberPatriot is the Air Force Association's National Youth Cyber Education Program, created to attract students to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education and careers. CyberPatriot programs include:

- National Youth Cyber Defense Competition (Grades 6-12)
- AFA CyberCamps (Grades 6-12)
- Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative (Grades K-5)
- Cyber Education Literature Series (Grades K-5)
- CyberGenerations (Senior Citizens)
- Tech Caregiver Program (student and adult volunteers [ages 14+])

The success of CyberPatriot has been made possible because of the outstanding support offered by sponsors and volunteers. Participation in CyberPatriot can make a real difference in your community and in the public's perception of your organization. This leading STEM program enables you to engage directly and in an extremely positive way with educators, administrators, community leaders, parents, and students interested in improving STEM and cybersecurity education.

This guide is specifically designed to assist you in promotion of CyberPatriot's elementary school programs, include the Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative (ESCEI) and the Cyber Education Literature Series.

For information on promoting or getting involved in other CyberPatriot programs, please see the program-specific guides offered on our website.

General Guidance – Get Organized

Organizations that are most successful are those that adopt CyberPatriot as a key activity and those which give it consistent focus throughout the year. These tips may help you in your efforts to be successful:

- **Appoint someone to lead your CyberPatriot efforts:** This will lead to improved continuity, communication, and consistency.
- **Make CyberPatriot a regular topic in your communications.** CyberPatriot has a variety of programs that are offered throughout the year. Make sure you know what is happening and when:
 - **Year-round:** Promotion of Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative and Cyber Education Literature Series
 - **October:** National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (also a good time to promote the program)
- **Tell your CyberPatriot story:** Use your CyberPatriot involvement with local schools and youth organizations to tell your community and state how you are inspiring students to get more involved in STEM studies! This could include reaching out to media (crafting media releases or letters to the editor or making local media appearances) or informing your local congressional representatives about CyberPatriot's success. You can also submit your stories directly to CyberPatriot for a chance to be featured in *The CyberSentinel*, CyberPatriot's monthly newsletter.

- **Ask for help:** AFA's CyberPatriot Program Office is happy to help you in any way it can. Staff members can be reached at info@uscypatriot.org or by phone at (877) 885-5716.

Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative (ESCEI)

Step 1: Familiarize yourself with modules and supplemental activities

Before introducing CyberPatriot's Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative (ESCEI – pronounced 'ess-key') to teachers, parents, and other interested parties, we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself at a basic level with what the program offers.

To summarize the program briefly, ESCEI is a set of three interactive learning modules aimed at increasing the awareness of online safety and cybersecurity principles for K-5 students. Supplemental activities are also available to get students collaborating with each other about their newly learned cyber skills.

The ESCEI modules and supplemental activities are free to download and are available to all elementary schools and anyone else who might be interested (parents/guardians, scouting groups, public libraries, daycares, etc.). The modules include:



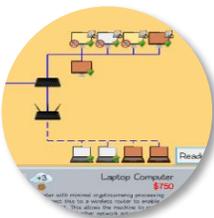
Security Showdown 2 (Grades K-2)

Learn the basics of sharing personal information with family, friends, and strangers in this simple point-and-click game. Share your information correctly and win the security showdown. Featuring charming voxel graphics, simple game mechanics, and voice-overs in both English and Spanish, this game is highly accessible and great for young players.



JeffOS (Grades 3-5)

Jeff, a helpful sidekick, guides students through his operating system and covers everything from basic computer skills to more complex issues like phishing and malware. JeffOS delivers actionable advice for safer computing in the real world and breaks down advanced topics into digestible pieces, all while providing players with fun, interesting interaction. Players will walk away from JeffOS with a more developed set of computer skills and a grasp on the importance of cybersecurity in their everyday lives.



Packet Protector (Grades 3-5)

Students can build a computer network to mine for cryptocurrency and use the money to expand and secure the network! They can see how their decisions affect the security and effectiveness of a network in this educational simulation. They'll also learn about basic networking components, malware, and security software, and discover some of the ways they can protect a network from cyber threats.

To download the modules, visit the [ESCEI webpage](#) on our website and [request your ESCEI kit](#).

NOTE: These modules cannot be run on tablets or Chromebooks. They can only be run on PCs and MAC OS.

Step 2: Promote the program in your community

Once you feel confident in your understanding of what ESCEI offers, it's time to identify schools, youth organizations, and individuals that might be interested in utilizing the program.

Ideas for promoting the Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative:

- Distribute this [ESCEI fact sheet](#) to local schools and libraries
- Make personal calls/emails to friends and family
- Contact youth groups that specialized in STEM or cybersecurity (Boys' and Girls' Clubs, scouting units, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, etc.)
- Promote the program in your next newsletter
- Present ESCEI at a school's career day event

Step 3: Follow up with those who have used the program

We love to hear from those who are using ESCEI and thank them for their participation. Don't hesitate to recognize and highlight users for going through the program.

Additionally, feedback plays an important role in improving programs to fit the needs of their target audiences. We encourage you to gather comments and concerns from ESCEI users and report back to the CyberPatriot Program Office so we can continue to evolve the program. Feedback can be sent to info@uscyberpatriot.org.

Cyber Education Literature Series

The Cyber Education Literature Series is the first of its kind, offering children's books focused on teaching the importance of cybersecurity to the youngest of technology users. The series currently consists of two books, each described below:

Sarah the Cyber Hero



Sarah lives in a town full of superheroes, but she has yet to earn her own superhero cape. The tradition is that when you save the day you earn your cape, but how will Sarah ever get a cape when her older brother, Andy, swoops in every time! Luckily, a school cyber education program has been teaching Sarah all about cyber safety and how to protect a computer from intruders. Can she use her new cyber skills to stop a dreaded computer virus from spreading through the neighborhood?

Ben the Cyber Defender



Ben is a typical kid with a not-so-typical passion for cybersecurity and helping others. His skills are put to the test when his cousin, Ethan, accidentally releases a virus that is set to ruin devices all over town. Can Ben stop the cyberattack in time and prove that he is ready to be a true cyber defender?

Purchase copies of the book:

These storybooks are available in paperback and e-book format. They can be purchased online through any of the following sites (click any of the logos below to be directed to the webpage):

Sarah the Cyber Hero:



Ben the Cyber Defender:



Ideas for promoting the Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative:

- Promote the literature program to local elementary schools
- Donate copies of books to local schools and public libraries
- Host story time with Ben & Sarah

We greatly appreciate your support of the CyberPatriot Program!

**If you have any questions, the CyberPatriot staff can be reached at
877-885-5716 or by email at info@uscyberpatriot.org.**