

Privacy

Month 3 Meeting 5

How much information are you sharing online? This week's meeting focuses on understanding privacy policies and data collection from mobile phone applications and social media platforms.

CYBER SWAT

Objectives

- Dig into the policies and terms of service of popular apps to find out what information is being collected.
- Continue planning for Cyber Safety Awareness Week.

Materials

- Printable handout: Privacy Challenge
- Cyber Safety Awareness Week preparation checklist

Agenda

Activity

Introduce the Cyber S.W.A.T. Privacy Challenge to the team. Have each team member choose one app on their phone. If possible, try to have each team member use a different app so they can compare notes later.

First, challenge the team members to locate the app's terms of service and other policies. These are not always easy to find. Remind them that they agreed to these terms when they started using the app; ask if anyone actually read them.

Next, have them take the Cyber S.W.A.T. Privacy Challenge by filling in the squares on the handout. Each app's data policy, privacy policy, terms of service, or other similar documents should tell them what kind of data is being collected and stored. Can the team find the answers to these questions in the policies?

Does the app track . . .

- How I interact with it?
- What features I use?
- The time and date of my posts or messages?
- The number of messages I send and receive?
- Who I communicate with the most?
- When I open a message?
- When I capture a screenshot?
- The content I create?
- The devices I use?
- Other apps I have installed?
- My operating system version?
- My device memory?
- Advertising identifiers?
- Unique device identifiers (IMEI or serial number)?
- The browser I use?
- The language setting on my device?
- My device's battery level?
- My time zone?
- Whether or not I have headphones connected?
- My network connections (wireless or mobile)?
- My phone number?
- My cellular service provider?
- My signal strength?
- Pages I visited before or after navigating to this site?
- My camera?
- The photos on my phone?
- My precise location?
- Pages viewed?
- My IP address?
- My contact list or phone book?

When everyone has read the policies, ask them if they were surprised by any of the data that the app is collecting.

Finally, ask them if they've considered their friends' apps and policies. Because apps can access contacts and phone books, then aggregate that data with other information they're collecting, an app you haven't even signed up for could have information about you.

Projects

Continue the planning for Cyber Safety Awareness Week. By now you should have:

- Solidify Cyber Safety Awareness Week calendar of events.
- Confirm presentation dates and topics.