

COMPUTING · GRADES 4–5

Networks

How devices talk to each other

Key terms

1

Network

Two or more devices connected so they can share information.

Example: Your phone, laptop and printer at home.

2

Internet

The world's biggest network — billions of networks connected together.

Example: When you load a website, you're using the internet.

3

Server

A powerful computer that STORES information and SENDS it to other devices that ask.

Example: Every website lives on a server somewhere.

4

IP address

A unique number for every device on a network. Like a phone number for computers.

Example: 192.168.1.5 or 142.250.190.78

5

Wi-Fi

A way to connect devices to a network using radio waves — no cables needed.

Example: Most home networks use Wi-Fi.

6

Router

The device in your home that connects you to the internet and shares Wi-Fi.

Example: Usually has lots of flashing lights.



7

URL

The web address you type. URLs map to IP addresses behind the scenes.

Example: <https://lessonkind.com>

Apply

1. When you load a website, where does the page actually come from?
2. Why do devices need IP addresses?
3. What's the difference between WI-FI and the INTERNET? (They're not the same thing!)
4. If your home Wi-Fi stops working, can you still use your laptop's local files? Why?

