Connectivity at home

Identify and explore different types of connections that can be found and linked with digital systems in your home.

30-60 MINS | **MEDIUM** | **AGES 10−12**

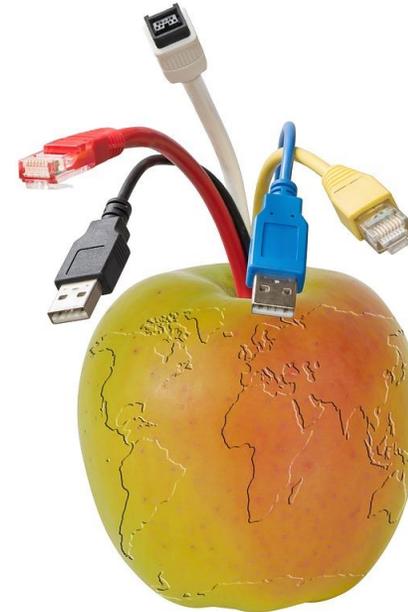**ACTIVITY TYPE: INVESTIGATION**

Image: Pixabay

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES HUB

You will need …

- [Connectivity investigation sheet](#)
- Pencil
- Clipboard (optional)
- Tablet device, such as an iPad (optional)

Image: Pixabay

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES HUB
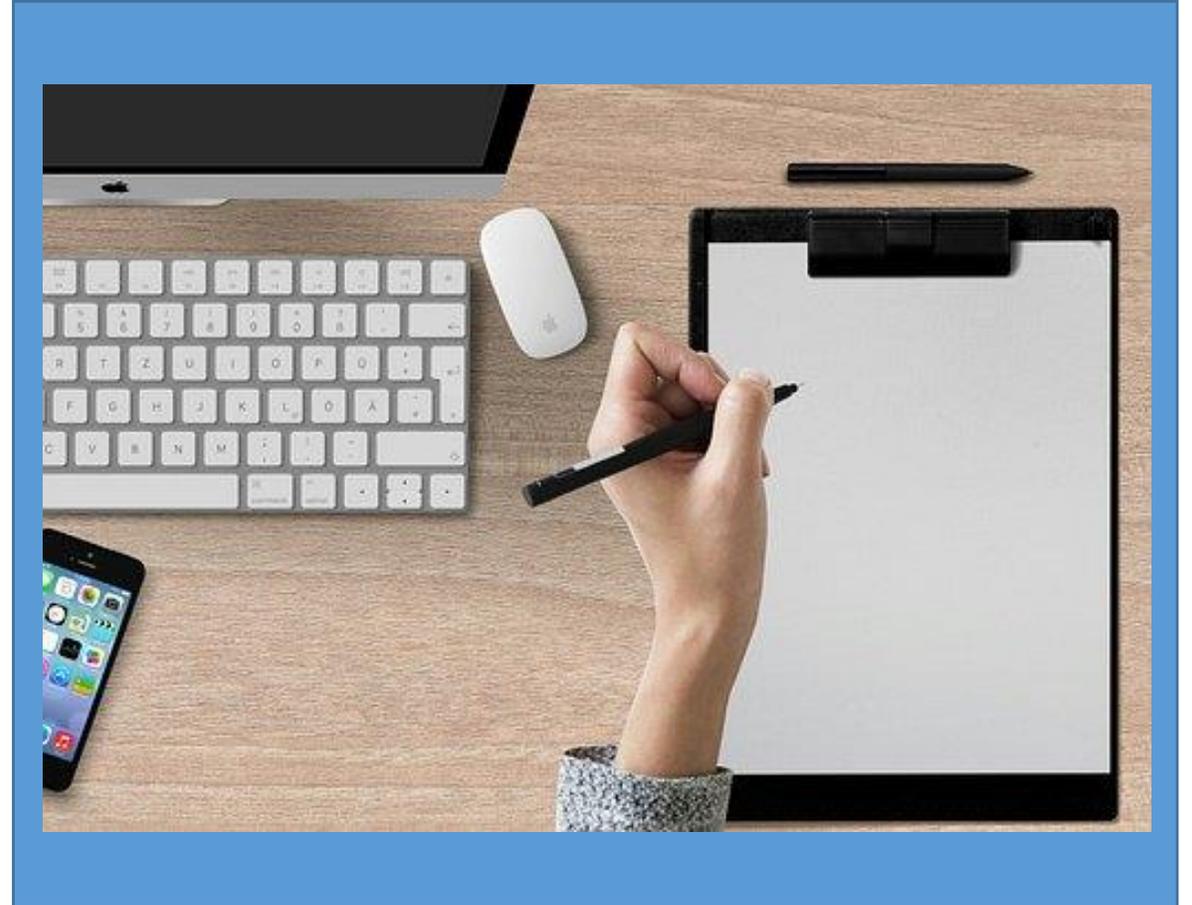
About the activity

As a family you can investigate different forms of connectivity and discover which types can be paired with the digital systems you own.

Image: Pixabay

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES HUB

Connectivity: What's that?

CONNECTED	WIRELESS
USB: USB is short for 'Universal Serial Bus'. USB enables two devices to connect and allows data and power to flow between the two.	**WiFi**: WiFi is a wireless networking technology that enables devices to communicate and connect to the internet over a radio wave signal.
Ethernet: Ethernet is a way to connect computers on a network using a special cable.	**Bluetooth**: Bluetooth is a wireless technology that enables short distance communication between different devices through radio frequencies.
HDMI: HDMI stands for 'High Definition Multimedia Interface'. It is a digital interface that enables audio and video data to be transmitted together in a single cable.	**Mobile data**: Mobile data is the information you are sending or receiving to and from a mobile network provider, usually when using a phone or a tablet.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES HUB

1 Let's get started

Talk with your child about the different types of technological connections that may be found in your home (eg HDMI, WiFi amd USB).

Tip: Look at the Connectivity investigation sheet for ideas about types of connections you can find in your home.

Image: Pixabay

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES HUB

2 What's next?

- Walk around the house and examine different digital systems you own.

- Talk about the way/s you can connect to each of the devices.

Tip: If you are unsure, look at the labels on the back of each device, or look in the settings menu or the user guide.

Image: Pixabay

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES HUB

3 # What's next?

Once you determine what type/s of connections each device has, make a list of your findings on the [Connectivity investigation sheet](#).

Tip: You could complete the sheet digitally on a tablet device if you prefer.

CONNECTIVITY INVESTIGATION

CONNECTED	WIRELESS
USB	WI-FI
Flash drive	iPad
Printer	Laptop Computer
ETHERNET	BLUETOOTH
Desktop Computer	Mobile Phone
HDMI	MOBILE DATA
Gaming console	iPad
Apple TV	

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES HUB

4 Congratulations!

You have identified lots of different digital systems in your home and the ways in which they connect to each other. You can now determine the most popular type of connectivity in your home.

Further thinking: Would the most popular type of connectivity in your home be the same as in your grandparents' home? What about your friends' homes? How could you find out?
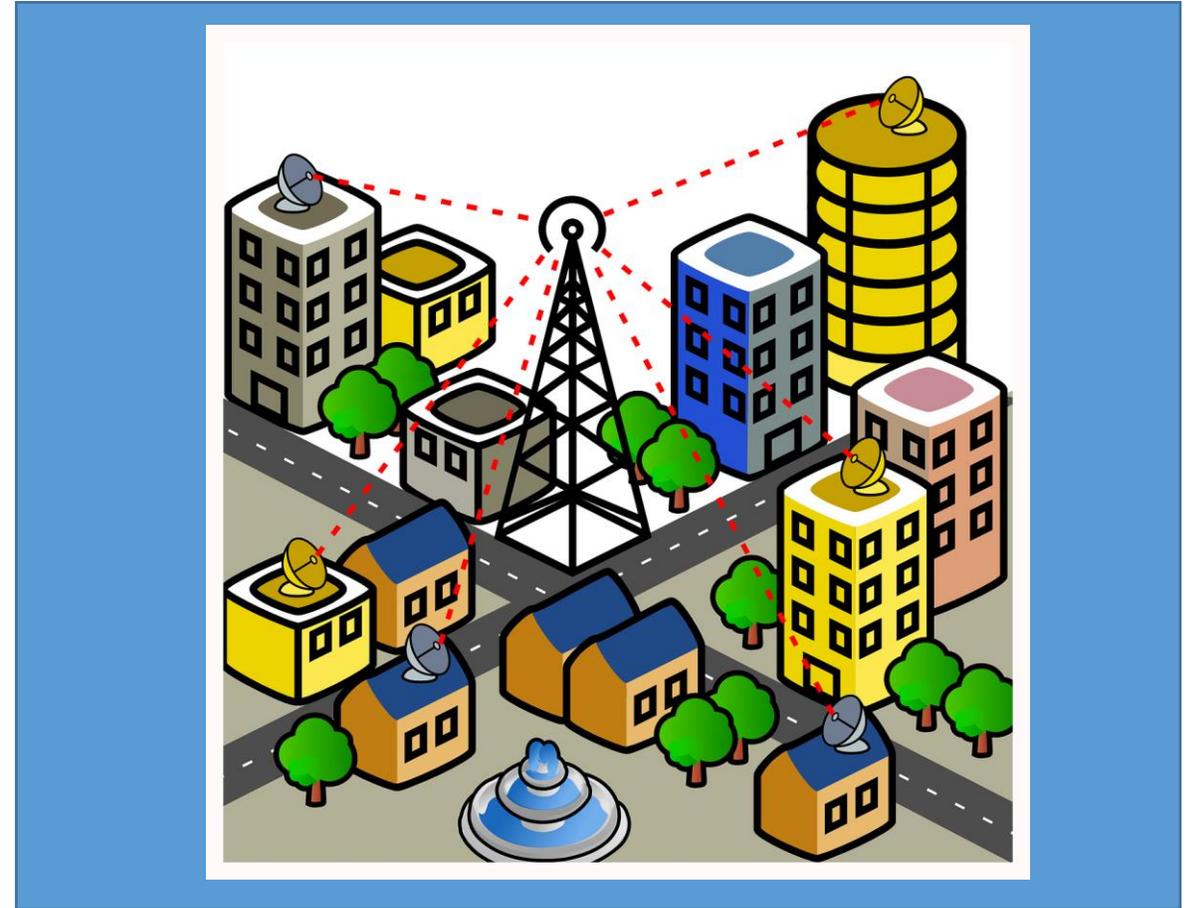

Image: Pixabay

Resources

- You can complete the [Connectivity investigation sheet](#) during your investigation.

- Alternatively, create your own way of recording your findings during the investigation.