Second Grade Technology Course
Lesson A-2-7
Using a Search Engine

1. Define search engine: software that is used to search for information on the World Wide Web. Search terms (words, phrases) are entered into the search box. A list of results (web pages) appears when the search is complete. Common search engines include Google, Bing, and Yahoo. There are search engines that are just for kids. The one we're going to use is called KidRex.
2. Direct the students to open Internet Explorer then type in www.kidrex.org. Point out the search box.
3. Direct students to perform a search on research report topic. Point out the number of results. Visit at least one of the websites and evaluate whether it looks safe, accurate, reliable, and just right for them.
   - Can you find an author?
   - Can you find when the information was added to the site? Is the site old?
   - Does the information look correct? Do you see anything that's wrong?
   - Are there spelling mistakes?
   - Do the photographs or diagrams look real and correct?
   - Are there lots of advertisements? Are there pop-ups?
   - Are there links on the site? Do they work?
     Note: Students are not expected to be able to evaluate websites on their own. They should recognize that everything that is on the WWW is not true, and they may need help in determining what websites to use when researching.

   2013/14 Pilot: Search on **hurricanes** using the KidRex search engine.
   www.weatherwizkids.com should come up in search results. It's one of the suggested sites for the research report.

1. Define search engine. Give examples. Explain that the students will be using KidRex.
2. Demonstrate how to perform a search on a research report topic. Weather, specifically hurricanes, was used in the 2013/4 pilot. Point out the search results. Visit at least one of the websites and evaluate whether it looks safe, accurate, reliable, and just right for them.
3. Direct the students to rotate through the computer(s). Students should open Internet Explorer, navigate to KidRex, and perform a search on a research report topic. Students can use the generic login.
4. Optional: Direct students to complete a Website Checklist for a site that appears in their search results. A sample checklist is located in the Second Grade Resources section on the Technology Course Resources page of the Mayfield website.