



## Copyright and Fair Use for Teachers

### What is Copyright? What is Fair Use?

Copyright provides legal protection for original creative works, including, but not limited to, poetry, movies, video games, videos, plays, paintings, sheet music, recorded music performances, novels, software code, sculptures, photographs, choreography and architectural design. Copyright holders, and those they authorize, have several rights afforded to them, including:

- Public Display or performance of work.
- Reproduce the entire work or parts of it.
- Distribute copies of the work.
- Derive works, such as translations or dramatizations.

Copyright protection has limitations and exceptions. Fair Use allows copyrighted material to be used under certain guidelines, without the copyright holder's permission, for purposes such as news reporting, teaching, research, criticism, and parody. Fair use consideration includes four factors:

- Purpose and character of use.
- Amount of work to be used.
- Nature of the work.
- Effect of any use on the market for the work.

Keep in mind that education purposes do not guarantee permission to copy or distribute work. Many cases may be permissible, but it is important to evaluate each use individually. There are several resources that you can consider, including asking your media specialist.

### Copyright and Fair Use Educator Resources...

- Great for students, this popular video uses Disney Characters to demonstrate, [A Fair\(y\) Use Tale](#).
- OCPS Management Directive B-7: [Guidelines for Use of Copyrighted Materials](#).
- Interested in [Teaching Copyright](#)? Full curriculum resources, including quizzes.
- Further information about [PBS' extended recording rights for K-12 schools](#).
- ALA's interactive online, [Fair Use Evaluator](#) for determining copyright exceptions.
- Printable PDF [Fair Use Checklist](#), which can be used by teachers and students.
- Printable two-page PDF chart, [Copyright and Fair Use Guidelines for Teachers](#).
- The Center for Social Media's Copyright and Fair Use [teaching resources and videos](#).

### Further Resources.....

- The entire text of the [U.S. Copyright Act of 1976](#).
- The Copyright Office also discusses [Fair Use in greater detail](#).  
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