What is a Flash Drive?

A flash drive is a small storage device that can easily be transport files from one computer to another. They are slightly larger than a stick on gum, yet many of these devices can carry all of your homework for an entire year! You can keep one on a key chain, carry it around your neck, or attach it to your book bag.

**Using a Flash Drive**

A flash drive is easy to use: Once you have created a paper or other work, simply plug in your flash drive into a USB port. The USB port will appear on the back or font of a desktop computer’s PC tower or on the side of a laptop.

Most Computers are set up to give an audible notice such as a chime when a new device is plugged in. This is normal.

When choose to save your work by selecting “Save As,” you will find that your flash drive appears as an additional drive.

**Why Carry a Flash Drive?**

You should always carry a backup copy of any important work you’ve completed. As you create a paper or large project, make a backup on your flash drive as save it separate from your computer.

A flash drive will also come in handy if you are able to print out homework at school. You can write a paper at home, save it to your flash drive, then plug the drive into a USB port on a school computer. Then simply open the document and print it out. Check with your teacher or librarian to see if this is an option.

A Flash drive is also handy for working on your paper or project on several computers at once. Carry your flash drive to your friend’s house for a joint project or for group study.

Be sure you use a flash drive responsibly!

Column Break

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