Are we using devices now?

For information and resources about digital citizenship, visit www.commonsense.org/educators
Those of you who use devices in your classroom are probably very familiar with the daily question, “Are we using devices now?” One way to tackle that refrain is to have a visual cue for the answer in your classroom!

Print out this stoplight poster and use a clothespin to indicate whether your students should keep their devices stored, have them out but facedown, or be on task with the devices. Attach the arrow to a clothespin for whole-group instruction. Or write students’ names on clothespins for individual permission.

Also, this is an opportunity to set expectations with your students. Use the suggestions below to begin a group conversation about what each color means in your class own words. Get as clever or as descriptive as you need:

**Red:**
- Keep devices stored.
- No need for devices yet!
- No devices at desks.
- Off: not on vibrate, silent, or asleep.
- Not yet!

**Yellow:**
- Devices down!
- Devices facedown on desks.
- Ask me.

**Green:**
- Devices on.
- Ready, set, go!
- Power up!
- On (and on task!).