

**Lesson Topic: Schemes, Scams, and Ploys: Deconstructing the Hoax**

**Supplies Needed:**

* Schemes, Scams, and Ploys: Deconstructing the Hoax PowerPoint
* Computer, projector, and screen/wall to display PowerPoint
* Copies of graphic organizer handout for participants

**Concepts and/or Learning Objectives:**

* Examine a variety of deception types
* Understand where ploys can happen
* Learn how to identify fraud to avoid falling victim

**Introduction:**

Intrigue, deception, and things not as they appear are the basis of fraud. Since the beginning of mankind, con artists have convinced unsuspecting victims to deny reality. Don’t be caught off guard. Learn how to identify and avoid a hoax to keep yourself, you identify, and your money safe.

**Activity:**

* Work through the power point included:
  + Goes through definitions, signs, examples, and more.
* Using the handout, complete the small group activity at the end of the PowerPoint to deconstruct a hoax.

**Discussion Points/Reflection Questions:**

Discussion questions are included throughout the notes on the PowerPoint File. Others to consider include:

* What is the difference between a scheme, a scam, and a ploy?
* What schemes have you seen or heard of in action?
* What are the consequences of falling prey to schemes, scams, and ploys?
* How can you avoid falling prey to schemes? How can you help others avoid them?

**Sources:**

Adapted from LifeSmarts by the National Consumers League: <https://lifesmarts.org/resources/lifesmarts-powerpoints/>

New May, 2020