When you meet a new friend, do you share things about yourself? Things you choose to share are pieces of your identity. Each of you has an identity that is worth protecting. People — called identity thieves — steal information from people and use it for their own financial benefit.

Learn more about preventing identity theft by watching [this video](#) and then expand your knowledge by completing this worksheet by yourself or with an adult!

**Try It Yourself!**

Look at each item below and then answer the questions in the grid. Then answer the three questions at the bottom.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is it?</th>
<th>Why do people have them?</th>
<th>What information does it contain?</th>
<th>How can you protect it?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="New York State Driver License" /></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Passport" /></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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Vocabulary:

- **Identification**: A document or card that has a person’s name and other personal information, such as address and photograph
- **Identity**: All of the characteristics that make a person unique, including personal appearance, nickname, personality, and background
- **Identity theft**: A crime in which one person uses another person’s identity or identification for personal gain
- **Government-issued identification**: Any form of identification that comes from a government agency, either federal or state
- **Social Security Number**: A nine-digit identification number issued to citizens by the United States government, which you need to get a job and get paid
- **Citizenship**: A membership in a community

Please select the correct answer for each of the following questions.

1. Which of the following is **NOT** a government-issued identification?
   a. Birth certificates
   b. Credit card
   c. Driver’s license
   d. Passport

2. Identity thieves steal people’s ______________ for their own financial gain.
   a. money
   b. cars and homes
   c. jewelry
   d. personal information

3. Which of the following statements is **FALSE**?
   a. There are steps you can take to try and prevent identity theft.
   b. People should keep all of their government-issued forms of identification at home.
   c. Identity thieves steal information from people — often without them knowing it.
   d. Government-issued identification contains personal information that should be protected.
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 | Driver's license | To prove they are allowed to drive a car  
To prove they are who they claim to be | Name  
Address  
Date of birth | Keep it in a safe location where other people can’t get it |
| 2 | Passport | To prove your citizenship when traveling | Name  
Photo  
Country of citizenship  
When and where you have traveled | Keep it at home with important documents, preferably in a safe or waterproof container  
When traveling know where it is and keep it with you |
| 3 | Birth certificate | To show when and where they were born | Name  
Parent's/Guardian’s names  
Date of birth  
Place of birth | Keep it at home with important documents, preferably in a safe or waterproof container |
| 4 | Credit card | To make purchases on credit | Name  
Credit card account number | Keep it in a safe location and know where it is |
| 5 | Social security card | To document your social security number — a nine-digit number that identifies you to the government | Name  
Social security number | Keep it at home with important documents, preferably in a safe or waterproof container |

**Answer key**

1. B - Credit card
2. D - personal information
3. B - People should keep all of their government-issued forms of identification at home


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