Name _____

Ransomware: The Digital Kidnapper and How to Outsmart It

Short Answer Key

1. Ransomware is a type of computer virus that encrypts a victim's files, making them inaccessible, and demands a ransom for the decryption key. It can affect a computer by encrypting files and rendering them unusable.
2. Common ways ransomware spreads to computers include malicious email attachments and fake software downloads. It can also exploit vulnerabilities in the computer's operating system.
3. Three preventive measures against ransomware attacks are keeping software updated, using antivirus software, and regularly backing up data.
4. If you suspect your computer is infected with ransomware, it is essential to disconnect from the internet, report the incident to authorities, and seek professional help to assess and address the situation.
5. It is essential not to pay the ransom demanded by cybercriminals in a ransomware attack because there is no guarantee that paying the ransom will result in the decryption key being provided. Paying the ransom also funds criminal activities and encourages further attacks.