

THE IMPACT OF DIGITAL LITERACY ON STUDENT SUCCESS

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Nowadays, digital literacy is an essential ability for learners, with a significant impact on their academic performance and overall success. It includes the capacity to browse, assess, and generate knowledge with a variety of digital tools, and as technology continues to change education, it is evident that being digitally literate is no longer an option. Digital literacy gives students access to a wealth of materials that go beyond traditional textbooks, allowing them to engage with content at their own speed and according to their individual learning preferences. This flexibility encourages individualized learning, which boosts student engagement and knowledge retention.

Additionally, digital literacy enhances critical thinking and research skills. With a vast amount of information available online, students are encouraged to assess the credibility and relevance of the sources they use, helping them develop the necessary skills to identify reliable and accurate information. This process strengthens their ability to synthesize various pieces of knowledge and apply them creatively to solve problems, which is key to academic success. Developing these skills also extends to collaborating and communicating more effectively. Digital platforms such as Google Docs, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams make it easier for students to work together on projects, share ideas, and receive real-time feedback, regardless of time or location.

Moreover, digital literacy plays a crucial role in preparing students for the future workforce. Proficiency with digital tools is increasingly expected by employers, as they look for candidates who are comfortable using technology for communication, collaboration, and productivity. Therefore, students who are digitally literate are more

competitive in the job market and have greater access to career opportunities. The benefits of digital literacy also extend to overcoming barriers to education. Learners from diverse backgrounds, including those in rural or underserved areas, can access quality education through online platforms and digital resources, leveling the playing field and ensuring that all students can succeed.

For learners to fully benefit from digital literacy, educators must actively incorporate digital tools into their teaching methods. Teachers need to develop their own digital literacy skills and stay updated on the latest tools and practices to guide students effectively. By modeling responsible and ethical use of technology, educators can help students navigate the digital landscape safely and responsibly. Ultimately, digital literacy is a cornerstone of student success, providing them with the tools they need to succeed academically and prepare for the challenges of a rapidly evolving world.

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