

Digital Skills for a Global Society

Digital Literacy Strategies for Leaders
GetDigitalSkills.org

What is Digital Literacy?

For purposes of this project, we focus on the aspect of digital literacy as the ***knowledge of, and the ability to use digital technologies to locate information; evaluate information; synthesize, create, and communicate information; and understand the human and technological complexities of a digital media landscape.*** Being digitally literate means having the skills to be an informed consumer, critical thinker, and creator in the digital world, and requires an ability to continuously learn and grow alongside technological developments. Our hope is that continuously developing the knowledge and skills of digital literacy will mutually reinforce mindsets and perspectives that are more curious, global, inclusive, empathetic, and sensitive to well-being.

How Leaders Can Leverage This Website?

The [Digital Skills for a Global Society](#) website is intended as a tool for self-exploration, a collection of resources, and a starting point anyone can use to advance their digital literacy skills. And, while it is not a course, lesson plan, assessment or curriculum, we encourage education leaders to explore the content, and reuse it if desired, to advance systemic digital literacy strategies. In this document, additional information on strategies and resources for district and state leaders is provided. Strategies for teachers, parents/caregivers and links to related organizations are also available on the site.

What Can School and District Leaders Do to Advance Digital Literacy?

- Review your standards and desired student outcomes to ensure that digital literacy skills are represented. Here are some sources:
[ISTE Standards for Students](#)

[NGLC MyWays](#)

[Portrait of a Graduate](#)

- Review curriculum to update lesson plans, activities, and assessments to make them more culturally inclusive and relevant to the digital world.
- Don't treat digital literacy as a separate subject. Instead, interweave it into subjects and assess skills formatively through the grades.
- Look to your school librarians for leadership. [National School Library Standards: Home](#)
- Make the skills visible and measure them.
- Address digital literacy as part of your comprehensive professional development plan. Here is a [Sample Outline of a 2-Day DigLit PD Program](#) And professional development programs are available:

[KQED Teach](#)

[Dig Cit Presentations and Workshops](#)

[ISTE](#) also provides a comprehensive set of courses, certification and other professional development resources.

What Can State Leaders Do to Advance Digital Literacy?

- States have pursued different approaches to define [edtech policies](#) and digital literacy skills.
- National Governors Association: [Workforce Policy Reimagined](#)
- Wisconsin developed [Standards for Information and Technology Literacy \(ITL\)](#) aligned with the ISTE Standards.
- Massachusetts represents [digital literacy in association with computer science skills](#) and recently updated the [2021 DLCS Curriculum Guide for Massachusetts Districts](#).
- The Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan (REMC) has created this free resource - [21 Things and Quests, you will be asked to think about Digital Citizenship](#).
- New Hampshire addresses [digital literacy as part of ICT skills](#).
- New York has published [Computer Science and Digital Fluency Learning Standards](#) across five concepts including impacts, computational thinking, cybersecurity and digital literacy.
- Utah has developed a middle school course on [Digital Literacy - CTE](#) that broadly covers topics from keyboarding to hardware to the ISTE Standards.
- The Georgia DoE produced this [90 minute webinar on 6-12 digital literacy and related resources](#).