

EasyTech: fostering tech literacy as students grow

Grade Tech Literacy and EasyTech benefits

K

Kindergarten is often the first formal introduction students will have to technology applications and to 21st century skills. Early starts with technology literacy have long-term benefits across fields of study.

- Students gain familiarity with basic computer input methods
- Critical concepts of online safety and digital citizenship are introduced.
- Internet safety topics that are required for ERate funding are taught with grade appropriate instruction that is based on research.
- Students learn how to gather information, what facts are, and how to organize them.
- They begin to use databases and graphics software to organize ideas and information and to present it visually.

Students in first grade will have varying degrees of comfort with technology applications.

1st

- 21st century skills are taught and reinforced as students work on projects.
- Students learn about computer hardware, applications, and components.
- Now that students have been using computers for a while, they learn to identify computer accessories like printers and hard drives and begin to understand how these function.
- They learn to use software interfaces, choose the correct applications for different types of tasks, and how to use built-in help tools.

2nd

Students in second grade are ready to begin using technology as an integrated tool.

- Students gain more sophisticated knowledge of basic computer functions and software applications and how to apply technology as a problem-solving tool.
- Students learn to use online safety and ethical behavior while using browsers and conducting research online.
- Word processing, spreadsheet software and touch typing are introduced.

3rd

Students in third grade are familiar with the basics of computer technology and are ready to begin using more programs.

- Students are introduced to the internal structure of a computer including processors, memory and more.
- They are taught more advanced spreadsheet tools and are introduced to organizing ideas and communicating to a specific audience using presentation software.
- A fun, digital, prescriptive coach helps improve keyboarding speed and accuracy.
- Students continue working with visual mapping software to plan and outline projects.
- Email basics are introduced in this grade.

4th

Students in fourth grade are on their way to mastering basic technology skills and are ready to add even more applications to their knowledge base.

- In this grade, students will focus on using technology to create products that communicate with an audience.
- Students learn to use presentation software and email.
- They learn more about web browsing and how information is communicated on the Internet.
- More advanced word processing and formatting skills are also developed in fourth grade.

5th

Students in fifth grade are capable of learning more advanced applications and concepts.

- Students focus on mastering the skills introduced earlier and increase their level of expertise.
- Students learn to apply more complex calculations to spreadsheets and work more with databases.
- Students learn to use more advanced communication tools.
- Advanced students might also begin using basic HTML code to create Web pages.

6th-8th

Students in sixth-eighth grade have the ability to understand a variety of technology concepts. Middle school presents a progression of increasingly advanced skills and concepts with accommodations for differing levels of background knowledge.

- Online safety and 21st century skills are taught throughout the middle school curriculum to enable students to be safe, and college and work ready.
- For those students already familiar with technology, the first year should be a year of reviewing and mastering computer hardware and software skills.
- For those students who have little to no experience, the curriculum allows them to start from the beginning and spend the year building their knowledge base.
- Students will learn more advanced skills and concepts at each grade level.
- Gaining a solid foundation in the applications presented in EasyTech curriculum prepares students for proficiency in applying their skills to various projects.
- Students leave 8th grade with technology literacy skills ready for high school and prepared for college and career.