

**A Common Definition**

**Technology literacy** is the ability to responsibly use appropriate technology to communicate, solve problems, and access, manage, integrate, evaluate, and create information to improve learning in all subject areas and to acquire lifelong knowledge and skills in the 21st century.

<b>FRAMEWORK FOR TECHNOLOGY LITERACY</b>  NETS Standards and Description	<b>PERFORMANCE INDICATORS</b>	<b>PROFILE OF A TECHNOLOGY LITERATE INDIVIDUAL</b>  (Taken from NETS-S 6-8 grade profile)
<b>Basic operations and concepts</b> Individuals are able to <b>access resources and utilize them</b> in daily work.	Individuals demonstrate a sound understanding of the nature and operation of technology systems; Individuals are proficient in the use of technology.	The individual will apply strategies for identifying and solving routine hardware and software problems that occur during everyday use.
<b>Social, ethical, and human issues</b> Responsibility and <b>citizenship</b> are an essential consideration as individuals learn with technology.	Individuals understand the ethical, cultural, and societal issues related to technology; Individuals practice responsible use of technology systems information, and software; Individuals develop positive attitudes toward technology uses that support lifelong learning, collaboration, personal pursuits, and productivity.	The individual will demonstrate knowledge of current changes in information technologies and the effect those changes have on the workplace and society. The individual will exhibit legal and ethical behaviors when using information and technology, and discuss consequences of misuse.
<b>Technology productivity tools</b> Technology plays a pervasive role in the <b>knowledge construction</b> of individual work.	Individuals use technology tools to enhance learning, increase productivity, and promote creativity; Individuals use productivity tools to collaborate in constructing technology-enhanced models, prepare publications, and produce other creative works.	The individual will use content-specific tools, software, and simulations (e.g., environmental probes, graphing calculators, exploratory environments, Web tools) to support learning and research. The individual will apply productivity/multimedia tools and peripherals to support personal productivity, group collaboration, and learning throughout the curriculum.
<b>Technology communication tools</b>  Effective <b>communication</b> is enriched through the use of technology.	Individuals use telecommunications to collaborate, publish, and interact with peers, experts, and other audiences; Individuals use a variety of media and formats to communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences.	The individual will design, develop, publish, and present products (e.g., Web pages, videotapes) using technology resources that demonstrate and communicate curriculum concepts to audiences inside and outside the classroom.
<b>Technology research tools</b> Individuals leverage learning opportunities by <b>utilizing technology for research</b> .	Individuals use technology to locate, evaluate, and collect information from a variety of sources; Individuals use technology tools to process data and report results; Individuals evaluate and select new information resources and technological innovations based on the appropriateness for specific tasks.	The individual will collaborate with peers, experts, and others using telecommunications and collaborative tools to investigate curriculum-related problems, issues, and information, and to develop solutions or products for audiences inside and outside the classroom. The individual will research and evaluate the accuracy, relevance, appropriateness, comprehensiveness, and bias of electronic information sources concerning real-world problems.
<b>Technology problem-solving and decision-making tools</b> <b>Problem solving</b> is a valued-individual skill that can be amplified through the use of technology.	Individuals use technology resources for solving problems and making informed decisions; Individuals employ technology in the development of strategies for solving problems in the real world.	The individual will select and use appropriate tools and technology resources to accomplish a variety of tasks and solve problems. The individual will demonstrate an understanding of concepts underlying hardware, software, and connectivity, and of practical applications to learning and problem solving.