“I’ll Google It”: Digital Natives and Digital Literacy

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Dr. Ellen Pozzi
Overview

• What is Digital Literacy?
• Born Digital?
• What does this mean for libraries?
What is Digital Literacy?
“Digital literacy is the ability to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information, requiring both cognitive and technical skills.” --Digital Literacy Task Force

https://literacy.ala.org/digital-literacy/
• DigitalLearn.Org
  • Basic Tech Skills
    • Getting started with email
    • Navigating Websites
    • Operating Search Engines
    • Mastering Cybersecurity
  • Tech Skills Checklist
• Digital Literacy
  • The ability to harness the potential of digital tools.

• Digitally Literate
  • “means one can use technology to its fullest effect - efficiently, effectively and ethically - to meet information needs in personal, civic and professional lives.”

Digital Literacy includes:

- Basic technical skills
- Knowledge of how the internet works
- Using Technology Creatively
- Legal/Ethical Knowledge
- Global Citizenship
- Media and Information Literacy Skills
Dimensions of Digital Literacy (Ng)

- Technical
  - Operational Literacy
- Cognitive
  - Information Literacy
  - Critical Literacy
  - Multiliteracies: Visual, audio, spatial
- Social Emotional
  - Social-Emotional Literacy: Netiquette, safety, privacy
Multiple Literacies

- Computer Literacy
- Hyperliteracy
- Internet Literacy
- Web Literacy
- Media Literacy
- Transmedia Literacy
- Information Literacy
Born Digital
Youth and Technology

- Born Digital
- Assumptions
- Reality
Google as Database

- First Page
- Wikipedia
- Frustration
Using Information

- Evaluating
  - Fact checking
  - Lateral searching
  - Deepfakes
  - MESH
- Ethical Use
  - Plagiarism
  - Copyright
Digital Inequities

• Devices

• Internet Connection

• Time Spent
What Does This Mean for Libraries?
Choose Dimension(s)

- Technical
  - Public libraries excel at this (PLA focus)
  - School libraries also teach this
- Cognitive
  - Major focus for school libraries
- Social-Emotional
  - Digital Citizenship
Assessing Competencies

- Computer Skills
- Searching (what and how)
- Evaluating Resources
- Misinformation/disinformation
- Algorithms
- Digital Citizenship
Collaboration

• Public Libraries and School Libraries
• Other organizations
Selected References


