

NEWSLETTER

Digital Literacy in Education: The Big Win For Employment



Dear Educator,

I trust this first DSF newsletter finds you and your families well.

As you know, teaching remains a continuous learning cycle and we wish for you to continue this journey. Therefore, DSF will provide a newsletter with interesting topics, ideas to put into practice in the classroom, and various other subjects to continue your progression. Each month different countries will be put in the spotlight.

We invite you to send ideas, feedback and testimonials to communication@dsf.global so we can share these with the whole community as well as on LinkedIn and FB.

Join us on Facebook to share your experience and ideas with others: [facebook.com/groups/dsfeducators](https://www.facebook.com/groups/dsfeducators)

Learning from others is the best way to improve. We thank you for your engagement and commitment to making education more relevant for your youngsters and we congratulate you on all that you are doing.

Annemijn PERRIN
CEO Digital Skills Foundation



George K. Werner,
Senior Education Advisor
at Digital Skills Foundation
and former Minister of
Education in Liberia

“ There is a realization that having digital skills is becoming increasingly important in today’s job market, and there is a strong relationship between possessing these skills and being employable. In fact, having digital skills has become essential for most jobs in the current technological era, not just teaching alone. Possessing digital skills, that are crosscutting to all industries and jobs, is critical to being employable in today’s job market. Digital tools and technologies allow employees to work faster and more accurately. Teachers being responsible for the future workforce are obliged to continuously learn. I predict that there will come a time when digital literacy will be a prerequisite for teaching in a 21st-century classroom and for job readiness in the next decade or so. As technology continues to advance or evolve, it’s important to keep up with the latest digital tools and technologies to remain competitive in the workforce. ”

MEET THE CHANGE MAKERS IN EDUCATION



Mireille Tumukunde
Trainer at Fr Ramon
Kabuga TSS,
Rwanda

I have integrated the knowledge and skills I obtained during the 21st-century digital skills foundation training in the classroom and ever since it has transformed the way students learn and has provided new opportunities for both students and myself such as collaborative learning, critical thinking, personalized learning, and digital creativity. For example, in collaborative learning, the internet has allowed for more collaborative learning opportunities among students. Students can work on group projects, discuss assignments, and share information using online tools such as Google Docs.



Isaac Phiri
Teacher at David Kaunda national stem
secondary school
ministry of education
lusaka, Zambia

I have clearly seen the benefits of this training. Ever since I introduced the program to my Learners at David Kaunda National STEM Secondary School, learning just became more fun to navigate and my students and I are now settling and sailing in the 21st century digital skills by asking different questions and letting them work on projects. Digital skills Foundation has made life easier for me and my learners because my learners are now actively involved in the learning process as compared to the time before where I was more of a preacher than a teacher and a dictator more than a facilitator, it made me to be a guide and has taught me as a teacher to make innovators out of my learners. Lessons like the flipped classroom have really taken over my role of a pastor and made me more of a 21st century classroom facilitator.

Here are some activities you can do in class to continue the learning journey

Challenge your students' critical thinking skills by asking them to think about bad ideas. What are some really bad ideas for products? Or what is a bad recipe idea. Ask students why the ideas are bad.

Show a picture of a person yawning, and ask your students how they think the person feels: sleepy or bored. However, what if the person was sleepy and bored; what word could then be used to describe this feeling? "Slored"? What new words can your students come up with?

Engage your students in the what and why while also allowing them to express themselves. Your goal is to discover the "why" behind things rather than just the "what." 2 questions to give you an idea. "If you had a superpower, what would it be?" "You have three wishes ... What are they?"

21ST-CENTURY SKILLS THROUGH QUESTIONING SKILLS

Questions are at the heart of what we do as teachers. There are different levels of questions that should all be used in the classroom, but it is essential to develop higher-order questions that guide a students' learning and requires them to think deeply. These questions do not have 1 right answer, but students have to justify why they are answering the way they are with data or explanations. It is especially important to develop these types of questions because with technology, it is too easy for students to copy and paste fact-based questions. Remember, writing good questions is not easy and it takes a lot of practice. After you write your questions, review them to see if there is a right or wrong answer. Then make sure students cannot look up the answers. Make sure they have to analyse, evaluate, or create to answer the question.

TEACHERS HANDBOOK

Digital Skills Foundation has provided a Teachers handbook with practical exercises that is available on the DSF website. <http://www.dsf.global/for-education> Download this so you have your own copy which allows you to revert back and have extra input for your classes.

