

Popular Digital Learning Resources



*In Ontario's
Literacy and Basic
Skills Programs*



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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
1. 21 Things 4 Students	4
2. AlphaPlus	5
3. Breaking Barriers: Embracing Literacy Through Digital Literacy	6
4. Breaking News English	7
5. Computer Training	8
6. Digital Literacy Curriculum for LBS	9
7. e-Channel.....	10
8. English Maven.....	11
9. Free Math Worksheets.....	12
10. Free Rice.....	13
11. GCF Learn Free	14
12. Interactive Reading Practice	15
13. Internet Matters	16
14. IXL Math	17
15. Khan Academy	18
16. Language Portal of Canada	18
17. Learners' Links	19
18. Learner's Dictionary	20
19. Library for Adult Learners.....	21
20. Live Work Sheets	21
21. Many Things.....	22
22. News in Levels	23
23. QUILL	24
24. Read Theory.....	25
25. Skillswise.....	26
26. Tech Teach – Digital Literacy Curriculum	27
27. TLG Learner Resources.....	28
28. Typing.com.....	29
29. Westcoast Reader.....	30
30. Wonderopolis	31

Introduction

Community Literacy of Ontario (CLO) is pleased to share our newest resource:

Popular Digital Learning Resources In Ontario's Literacy and Basic Skills Programs

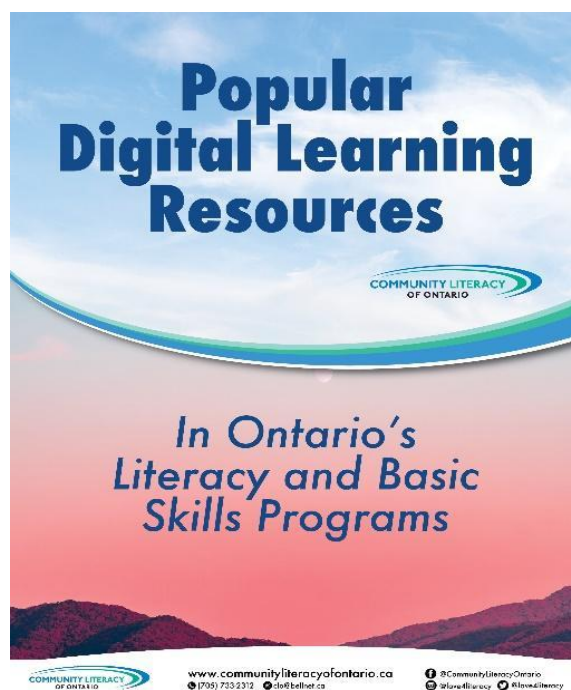
Community Literacy of Ontario is a provincial network of community-based Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) agencies. We are located in Barrie, Ontario. You can learn more about our organization by visiting our [website](#) and by following us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

As part of our 2020/2021 business plan, Community Literacy of Ontario researched and annotated this list of popular digital learning resources used in LBS programs.

To find these resources, CLO asked practitioners and the CLO Board about their favourite instructional resources. We also conducted internet research to find “the best of the best”.

In this annotated list, you'll find **30 digital learning resources**. The resources are presented in alphabetical order and are not in any order of priority. All resources selected are available free of charge and they are accessible via the internet.

Community Literacy of Ontario sincerely hopes that this annotated list is helpful to LBS practitioners who are looking for practical digital learning resources to support adult learners. Thank you for the important work you do, in this time of COVID19 and always.



1. 21 Things 4 Students

Author: REMC Association of Michigan

URL: www.remc.org/21Things4Students/21/begin-here/



Description:

21 Things 4 Students is a free digital resource that teaches learners how to navigate online activities such as searching for information, online shopping, online safety and more. The 21-part resource is designed for grades 5-9 and used for grades K-12. It's very adaptable to the LBS classroom.

The 21-part course is made up for 146 "Quests" which are engaging activities that build technology skills. There are five or more Quests in each of the 21 sections so learners have a variety of ways to master a technology skill.

Each of the 21 sections has:

- Top animated video or image
- Introduction to the big idea
- Learning Objectives
- Side Menu Showing the Quests
- Teacher Guide
- Learning Objectives Slide
- Resources
- Print to pdf Ability

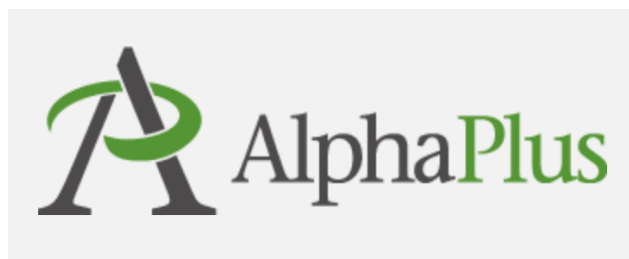
Contents

- [1. Basics](#)
- [2. Visual Learning](#)
- [3. My Digital Life](#)
- [4. Collaboration](#)
- [5. Digital Footprint](#)
- [6. Cyber Safety](#)
- [7. Be Legal & Fair](#)
- [8. Troubleshooting](#)
- [9. Search Strategies](#)
- [10. Digital Images](#)
- [11. Powerful Presentations](#)
- [12. Interactives](#)
- [13. Dig the Data](#)
- [14. Social Networking](#)
- [15. Design Thinking](#)
- [16. Career Prep](#)
- [17. Creative Communications](#)
- [18. Digital Storytelling](#)
- [19. Buyer Beware](#)
- [20. Global Collaboration](#)
- [21. Computational Thinking](#)

2. AlphaPlus

Author: AlphaPlus

URL: <https://alphaplus.ca/>



Description

AlphaPlus helps adult education organizations across Ontario use technology to impact learner outcomes, improve business practices and strengthen program delivery through increased digital literacy.

AlphaPlus provides tools, training and tailored coaching services to Literacy and Basic Skills organizations applying technology in adult learning environments.

AlphaPlus guides and supports adult education service providers and educators to take control of their digital technology with:

- One-on-one technology coaching services
- Learning sessions and workshops delivered on-site
- Ad hoc support to identify and integrate digital tools and strategies
- Access to adult education resources that improve practices and communication
- Training, webinars and industry news

Contents

- [Past Webinars](#) and [Current Webinars](#)
- [PDF Instructional Resources](#)
- [Quick Tips & How to Guides](#)
- [PDF Reports](#)
- [Useful App Guide](#)
- [Useful Website Guide](#)
- [About Moodle](#)
- [LBS & COVID-19 Website](#)

3. Breaking Barriers: Embracing Literacy Through Digital Literacy

Author: Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

URL: www.breakingbarriers.eu/index.php/en/



Description

The ***Breaking Barriers*** [Toolkit](#) contains a wide variety of engaging content, learning activities, strategies, tools, lesson plans, and teaching tips for adult learners.

The Toolkit is divided into four sections:

- A. Writing
- B. Reading
- C. Speaking
- D. Listening

Each section of the Toolkit covers the following topic areas:

- Greetings, Introductions and Social Skills
- Grammar and Vocabulary
- Books / Newspapers / Magazines
- Digital Skills
- Other Topics

4. Breaking News English

Author: Breaking News English

URL: <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/>



Description

Designed for ESL students, **Breaking News English** provides news articles about current events in 7 reading levels with accompanying activities that can be printed. There are two types of news articles: those written in reading levels 0, 1, 2, and 3 or those written in reading levels 4, 5, and 6. The learner can practice reading the article in various reading levels.

“All lessons are based on stories currently in the news - as the world's news breaks, teach it.”

New content is added to the Breaking News English website on a regular basis. Breaking News English is also available on [Facebook](#).

Contents

Learners can browse the site and choose articles by topic:

- [Business English](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Issues](#)
- [Lifestyle](#)
- [People / Gossip](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [World News](#)

5. Computer Training

Author: Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy

URL: www.cbal.org/computer-training.html



Description

The **Computer Training** series is a collection of workshops and lesson plans on common hardware such as computers and tablets, and common software and apps like Gmail and Twitter. The courses were designed for use with seniors but can be used with any learner with technology literacy goals.

Each section includes the learner workbook, linked below, as well as a lesson plan with facilitator notes.

Contents

- [Getting to know your Computer](#)
- [Caring for your Computer](#)
- [Getting to know your iPad](#)
- [Shopping Safely Online](#)
- [Using Gmail](#)
- [Using Twitter](#)
- [Using Skype](#)
- [Using Facebook](#)

6. Digital Literacy Curriculum for LBS

Author: CESBA (The Ontario Association of Adult and Continuing Education School Board Administrators)

URL: <https://cesba.com/cesba-launches-lbs-digital-curriculum/>



Description

CESBA created their ***Digital Literacy Curriculum for LBS*** with the goal of providing a resource to support adult learners to develop their digital skills, gain confidence in the digital world and learn how to access online information. As well, this curriculum will help learners to understand online safety.

The Digital Literacy Curriculum for LBS contains three components:

- A. Digital Curriculum Manual
- B. Student Workbook
- C. Practitioner's Guide

The Digital Curriculum Manual is 109 pages long and includes the following topics (and more!):

- Looking at My Computer
- Looking on the Internet
- Looking at a Website
- Looking for a Job
- Learning about MS Word
- Learning about Email, Google Maps, Facebook, YouTube and Skype
- Learning about Smartphones and Tablets

The *Student Workbook* is 25 pages long and helps LBS learners to practice their digital skills, learn new vocabulary and answer helpful questions. It also provides a “Badge Checklist” where learners can check off major milestones achieved.

The *Practitioner's Guide* is 36 pages long and contains instructions, OALCF assessment, marking guide, suggested resources, master vocabulary list, and a certificate.

7. e-Channel

Author: Contact North and the e-Channel providers

URL: <https://e-channel.ca/>

Description

No discussion of digital learning resources would be complete without mentioning the amazing **e-Channel**! e-Channel is the online Literacy and Basic Skills program. It provides online literacy courses to adults in Ontario. Courses are offered in two ways:

- Live courses in an online classroom at a scheduled time
- Anytime courses done independently

There are five e-Channel service providers. Visit their websites to learn more about their services and digital learning resources.

- [LearningHUB](#)
- [Good Learning Anywhere](#)
- [ACE Distance](#)
- [Deaf Learn Now](#)
- [Formation à Distance](#) (F@D)

Contact North provide provides technical support for e-Channel.

Learn all about e-Channel and the wide variety of excellent learning opportunities provided by the five e-Channel providers via their website: <https://e-channel.ca/>. e-Channel also has a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/onlineLBS.



8. English Maven

Author: English Maven

URL: www.englishmaven.org/



Description

English Maven offers lessons designed for students in the K-12 education system and for adults studying for their GED (General Educational Development). It also supports English as a Second Language students. However, this website and lessons will benefit all interested in advancing their knowledge of the English language.

The English Maven website is easy to navigate which makes the content easy for adult students and novice English speakers to use and understand.

Contents

- [Verb Tenses](#)
- [Sentence Completion](#)
- [Synonyms and Antonyms](#)
- [Paragraph Correction](#)
- [Crossword Puzzles](#)
- [Reading Comprehension](#)
- [Alphabetization](#)
- [Contractions](#)
- ["ed" Word Endings](#)
- [Interrogatives](#)
- [Matching](#)
- [Spelling](#)
- [Subject / Predicate](#)
- [There, their, and they're](#)
- [U.S. Citizenship](#)
- [Homonyms](#)
- [Punctuation](#)
- [Phonics](#)
- [Parts of Speech](#)
- [Grammatical Person](#)

9. Free Math Worksheets

Author: Math-Drills.com

URL: www.math-drills.com



Description

Free Math Worksheets includes over 57,000 free math worksheets that may be used to help students learn math. Their PDF math worksheets are available on a broad range of topics including number sense, arithmetic, pre-algebra, geometry, measurement, money concepts, and much more.

There are also a few interactive math features including the Sudoku and Dots math games, and the more serious math flash cards and unit converter.

Free Math Worksheets is also available on [Facebook](#).

Contents

- [Multiplication](#)
- [Mixed Operations Math](#)
- [Addition](#)
- [Long Multiplication](#)
- [Large Print Math s](#)
- [Subtraction](#)
- [Division](#)
- [Algebra](#)
- [Decimals](#)
- [Geometry](#)
- [Measurement](#)
- [Percents](#)
- [Money](#)
- And many more

10. Free Rice

Author: United Nations World Food Programme

URL: <https://freerice.com>



Description

Free Rice is an online game that shows the player a word and asks them to pick the correct definition from a list of four other words. It is an excellent resource for building vocabulary in a fun and meaningful way.

As you play Free Rice and answer questions correctly, advertisements appear on your screen. When you see one of these advertisements, you trigger a financial payment to the [United Nations World Food Programme](https://freerice.com) to support its work saving and changing lives around the world.

For inspiration, Free Rice shows you how many grains of rice you have donated by playing the game, and it tracks the amount of free rice donated globally each day.

Over the lifetime of this game, over 202 billion grains of rice have been donated to the United Nations World Food Programme!

The game is available on the website as well as via an app for smartphones and tablets. In addition, Free Rice shares its content on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/freerice).

11. GCF Learn Free

Author: Goodwill Community Foundation

URL: <https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/>



Description

For almost 20 years, **GCF Learn Free** has helped millions around the world learn the essential skills they need for work and life. From Microsoft Office and email to reading, math, and more, [GCFLearnFree.org](https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/) offers online learning opportunities on more than 200 topics, including more than 7,000 lessons, more than 1,000 videos, and more than 50 interactive pages and games, completely free.

On GCF Learn Free, you will find many topics to support adult learners, including:

- Reading, Writing and Math
- Computers, Email, Internet, Digital Skills and Online Safety
- Everyday Life (food and cooking, health and safety and more)
- Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher and Access
- Job Search Skills
- Creativity and Design
- Personal Finance
- And much, much more...

You can also access engaging content on the GCF Learn Free [Facebook page](#).

The learning activities on GCF Learn Free are extremely user-friendly and follow a step-by-step format from basic to more advanced. Lessons are presented in a combination of text and visual images. To view the topics available on GCF Learn Free, visit:

<https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/topics/>

12. Interactive Reading Practice

Author: National Geographic Learning

URL: www.ngllife.com/student-zone/interactive-reading-practice



Description

Interactive Reading Practice contains a series of stories (called reading texts), based on articles from the National Geographic Magazine.

The reading texts are followed by interactive reading comprehension activities, a recording of the text to listen to online, a supplementary grammar and vocabulary practice worksheet based on the text, and links to National Geographic images and videos for users to explore the topics further.

Each Interactive Reading Practice is provided in three different versions: Beginner/Elementary, Pre-int/Intermediate, and Upper Intermediate/Advanced.

Contents

- [Beginner/Elementary](#)
- [Pre-Int/Intermediate](#)
- [Upper-Int/Advanced](#)
- [Student Zone](#)

These resources are also available:

- [Monolingual and Multilingual Word Lists](#)
- [Grammar Practice Worksheets](#)
- [Student's Book and Workbook audio](#)

13. Internet Matters

Author: ABC Life Literacy Canada

URL: <https://abclifeliteracy.ca/all-programs/internet-matters/>



Description

Internet Matters helps Canadians who aren't comfortable using the internet to gain the knowledge they need to get started. Through the Internet Matters program, adult learners can develop a deeper understanding of what the internet is, how they can access it affordably, and how it can help them do the things that are important to them, their families, work, and community.

The 35-page Internet Matters workbook is available for free download once you sign up.

Content includes:

- What is digital literacy?
- What you need to get online
- Introduction to computers, tablets and cellphones
- How to search online
- Keeping safe online
- Tips for avoiding scams
- Protecting your reputation online
- Social media
- Finding services you need online

As well, ABC Life Literacy Canada has created [Youth Teaching Adults](#). This helpful resource for adult learners shares step-by-step learning plans for learning about various technologies, such as Google, Gmail, YouTube, Facebook, Facebook Messenger, and more.

14. IXL Math

Author: IXL Learning

URL: <https://ca.ixl.com/math/topics>



Description

IXL Math offers hundreds of lessons on a variety of Math and English subjects at K - 12 grade levels. Learners can browse lessons by topic or by grade level. Lessons are interactive and web-based, so students can complete them on a desktop computer, tablet or smartphone.

IXL Math offers 10 free questions per day. To access unlimited questions and use premium features like lesson tracking, educators can purchase monthly or yearly subscriptions.

Contents

- [Addition](#)
- [Algebra](#)
- [Comparing](#)
- [Counting](#)
- [Decimals](#)
- [Division](#)
- [Estimation](#)
- [Exponents and Roots](#)
- [Fractions](#)
- [Functions and Equations](#)
- [Geometry](#)
- [Graphs](#)
- [Integers](#)
- [Logic and Reasoning](#)
- [Measurement](#)
- [Mixed Operations](#)
- [Money and Consumer Math](#)
- [Multiplication](#)
- [Number Theory](#)
- [Patterns](#)
- [Percents](#)
- [Place Values](#)
- [Probability and Statistics](#)
- [Properties](#)
- [Ratios and Proportions](#)
- [Subtraction](#)
- [Time](#)
- [Trigonometry](#)
- [Word Problems](#)

15. Khan Academy

Author: Khan Academy

URL: www.khanacademy.org/



Description

The slogan of the **Khan Academy** is “*You can learn anything.*” And with the free, online resources offered by the Khan Academy, it’s true! The Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that allows learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom.

The Khan Academy’s mission is to provide a free, world-class education for anyone, anywhere. The Academy is geared primarily towards elementary, high school, college, and university students, but it contains many helpful resources for adult learners as well, particularly on the topic of math.

16. Language Portal of Canada

Author: The Government of Canada

URL: www.noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca/index-eng.php



Description

The **Language Portal of Canada** provides access to free tools and resources to help adults improve their English skills. On this website, adults can improve their writing skills with helpful quizzes, participate in the “*Our Languages*” blog, and explore a selection of language-related Canadian links.

Other content on the Language Portal of Canada includes the “*Language Navigator*” which gives advice on grammar, spelling and punctuation, and solutions for difficult points of the English language. As well, there’s a collection of diverse Canadian language resources. The content is available in both English and French.

Learn more by watching this video: [Discover the Language Portal of Canada.](#)

17. Learners' Links

Author: Literacy Nova Scotia

URL: www.literacyns.ca/learnerslinks.htm



Description

Literacy Nova Scotia has created a helpful resource page with a variety of digital learning resources called ***Learners' Links***.

Learners' Links share resources on the following topics:

- **Math Resources for Learners**
 - At Levels 1 and 2
 - Multiplication Times Tables
 - Multiple Percents
 - Place Value
 - Whole Numbers and Decimals
- **Reading and Writing**
 - At Levels 1 and 2
 - Spelling and Vocabulary
 - Reading, Writing, Vocabulary, Grammar
 - Adjectives
 - Making Sentences
- **Resources for Adult Learners**

18. Learner's Dictionary

Author: Merriam-Webster

URL: www.learnersdictionary.com/



Description

The ***Learner's Dictionary*** is a free online dictionary and collection of learning tools. Learners can create a free account and save words they want to refer back to.

The site offers a "Word of the Day" which learners can find on the website or they can sign up for a daily email. Learners can also browse the "Ask the Editor" section for in-depth explanations such as the difference between there, their, and they're.

Learners can also submit their own questions on the website.

The Learner's Dictionary also shares interesting learning materials on [Facebook](#).

Contents

- [Core Vocabulary Words](#) - Categorized by 18 topics
- [Visual Vocabulary Quiz](#)
- [Learner's Vocabulary Quiz](#)

19. Library for Adult Learners

Author: Centre for the Study of Adult Literacy

URL: <http://csal.gsu.edu/content/are-you-learner>



Description

The Centre for the Study of Adult Literacy has created a ***Library for Adult Learners*** that contains many interesting and topical stories.

These stories are organized in three categories: easier, medium, and harder. The library contains a wide variety of topics, such as health, food, children, families, real life stories, fiction, work, history, and science. There are a wide variety of stories under each category, organized in alphabetical order.

20. Live Work Sheets



Author: Live Work Sheets

URL: www.liveworksheets.com/worksheets/en

Description

Live Work Sheets is an extensive collection of interactive worksheets that can be used on a computer. Educators can create their own worksheets or use the worksheets already available on the website. Educators are able to assign worksheets and workbooks to students and students are able to submit their answers to the educator.

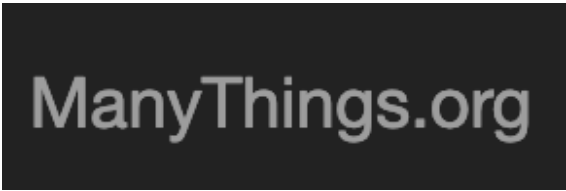
Educators can browse the worksheets through categories like ESL, Life Skills, as well as topically through categories like Music, Mechanics, and Match.

Visit [About this Site](#) and find out how to use the worksheets and create your own interactive worksheets.

21.Many Things

Author: Many Things

URL: www.manythings.org/

The logo for ManyThings.org, featuring the text "ManyThings.org" in a white, sans-serif font on a dark grey rectangular background.

Description

The **Many Things** website was created for people studying English as a Foreign Language. It is also extremely useful to adult literacy students. There are quizzes, word games, word puzzles, proverbs, slang expressions, anagrams, a random-sentence generator, and other computer assisted learning activities.

Contents

Content on this site include:

- Popular Links
- Daily Study
- Reading with Audio
- Commonly-used Irregular Verbs in English
- Listen and Repeat English Sentences
- Listen and Read Along Videos
- Vocabulary Building Activities
- Anagrams, Proverbs and Slang

22. News in Levels



Author: News in Levels

URL: www.newsinlevels.com/

Description

News in Levels provides news articles in one of three levels: 1, 2, and 3. The site is designed to expand the learners' number of recognized words. At level 1, the learner recognizes 1000 words, at level 2, 2000 words, etc.

The website includes video resources and a Skype database so learners can video chat and practice speaking English.

News in Levels is also available on [Facebook](#).

Contents

In addition to the news articles, the site also offers books in the three reading levels and a grammar website:

- [Robinson Crusoe](#)
- [The Little Prince](#)
- [Grammar in Levels](#)
- [Jokes in Levels](#)

23.QUILL

Author: QUILL

URL: www.quill.org



Description

QUILL has a collection of tools that help learners become better writers. The tools integrate with Google Classroom and Clever. The tools have been designed for elementary, middle school and high school levels and are definitely adaptable for the LBS classroom.

The activities focus on writing skills and grammar skills. The tools can be used individually by a student or in groups with several students sharing and discussing their answers.

QUILL's learning materials are also available on [Facebook](#).

Learning Tools include

- [Quill lessons](#)
- [Quill proofreader](#)
- [Quill grammar](#)
- [Quill Connect](#)

24. Read Theory

Author: Read Theory

URL: www.readtheory.org



Description

Read Theory was created to help educators support students of all ages to improve their reading comprehension skills.

Read Theory contains personalized reading comprehension exercises, worksheets and tests, designed for students in the K-12 system, adult education, and ESL programming.

All worksheets, exercise, and tests are free to use, and are both printable and accessible online.

However, you will need to register and set up an account to be able to access content.

Read Theory has thousands of exercises and worksheets. Content is continually updated in order to keep learning activities fresh and material is designed to help students of all ages improve their reading comprehension skills in a fun way that keeps them attentive and motivated.

The content developed for adult education is specifically designed to appeal to adults. As well, Read Theory's content was created to fit diverse cultures.

You can also access Read Theory on [Facebook](#).

25.Skillswise

Author: BBC Teach

URL: www.bbc.co.uk/teach/skillswise



Description

The **Skillswise** online resource focuses on helping adults develop their skills, including adult literacy and basic skills and job readiness.

Each topic includes free videos and downloadable resources like factsheets and worksheets to help adult learners improve their reading, writing and numeracy skills.

Topics currently available on the Skillswise website are:

- English and Math for Adults
- Essential Skills for Jobs

The BBC Teach website also contains *Secondary School Teaching* [resources](#) as well as *Primary School Teaching* [resources](#).

Diverse resources are included on these sites, including English, math, media, science, geography, computers and more.

26.Tech Teach – Digital Literacy Curriculum

Author: Literacy Link Niagara

URL: www.literacylinkniagara.ca/wp-content/uploads/Curriculum-Draft-Oct42016.pdf



Description

Tech Teach is a digital literacy curriculum designed for adult learners with digital literacy goals. The curriculum has four modules and covers common Internet tasks as well as online safety.

Each module includes five or more lessons and activities.

Contents

- Module 1–Social Media
- Module 2 –Internet/Web-browsing
- Module 3 –Tablet/Smartphone Use and Applications
- Module 4 –Google Docs

27.TLG Learner Resources



TLG Learner Resources

Author: The Literacy Group of Waterloo Region

URL: <https://sites.google.com/view/tlglearnerresources/home>

Description

TLG Learner Resources is a webpage built by the staff at The Literacy Group of Waterloo Region. The website was created to support learners from a distance during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic while staff were not able to meet with learners in person.

The website houses several categories of resources for adult learners, as well as resources for job seeking, games and more.

Contents

- [Jobs](#)
- [Digital Technology](#)
- [Reading & Vocabulary](#)
- [Grammar & Writing](#)
- [Math](#)
- [Work & Life](#)
- [Web Quests](#)
- [Games](#)

28. Typing.com

Author: Teaching.com

URL: www.typing.com



Description

Typing.com is a collection of resources that aims to help learners build fundamental digital skills. The various courses offer extensive keyboard lessons and digital literacy content to provide your learners with fundamental career and life skills.

There is a free version and a paid version. The free version is supported by ads but has nearly the same functionality as the paid version.

Contents

- [Typing Lessons](#)
- [Typing Tests](#)
- [Typing Games](#)
- [Digital Literacy](#)
- [Coding Curriculum](#)

29. Westcoast Reader

Author: Decoda Literacy Solutions

URL: <https://thewestcoastreader.com/articles/>



Description

The **Westcoast Reader** (The WCR) is a newspaper and online resource for adult learners. Its purpose is to help learners develop reading and language skills through newsworthy articles about living in British Columbia and Canada. It also serves as an introduction to Canadian daily newspapers.

On the Westcoast Reader website, educators and learners can find articles based on reading level (1, 2, and 3) as well as by topic.

The articles cover diverse topics; recent articles include:

- Wanuskewin's Baby Bison
- Hearts in Windows
- Mental Health Week
- How to Make Compost at Home
- Nunavut's New Greenhouse
- Plant a Herb Garden
- Pat Builds a Boat

The Westcoast Reader also shares content on [Facebook](#).

30. Wonderopolis

Author: National Center for Families Learning

URL: <https://wonderopolis.org/>



Description

Wonderopolis publishes a Wonder of the Day every day and explores it in a variety of ways. This site is designed to encourage curiosity and lifelong learning. There are over 2,600 “wonders” on this dynamic website. It’s a place where the “wonders of learning never cease”!

As well, Wonderopolis has created a new component of their website, called **Wonder Ground**, which houses resources and lesson plans especially for educators. See: <http://wg.wonderopolis.org/>.

You can also follow Wonderopolis on [Facebook](#)!

Contents

View the “wonder list” at: <https://wonderopolis.org/wonders/list>

The “wonders” are also divided into the following topic areas:

- [Arts & Culture](#)
- [Social Studies](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Technology](#)