



# DIGITAL LITERACY

Smart and Skilled Use of Digital Communication



# FOR WHAT PURPOSE / REASON

CREATE MEANING

RESPOND ACCURATELY

WORK WITH OTHERS

SAFE PRACTICES

**Digital literacy means having the skills:**

- **To live, learn, and work**
- **Communication and access to information is often via digital technologies**
- **Know-how of internet platforms, social media, and mobile devices can be an advantage**

**The basics of learning how to use technology are readily available in different formats ie., written, audio or video options. Yet diverse learners are likely to need more practice, simplified methods, and or explicit instructions.**



# RESEARCH - WHAT OTHERS FOUND

**Community building and knowledge sharing by individuals with disabilities using social media.**  
Stough, Laura; Sweet, Kayla; LeBlanc, Jennifer K.; Sweany, Noelle W. (2019).

Access to technology: Adults with disabilities typically earn less than adults without disabilities and are more likely to live in poverty when compared to the general population.

Accessibility: 45 of 58 participants with intellectual disabilities found Facebook accessible, although they indicated a need for less text, the choice for speech to text, and suggested an online help for users.

In conclusion, the majority reported positive aspects of social media use such as building knowledge, forming friendships, and creating social support groups. But, if individuals are not able to use social media tools, this benefit is lost and can lead to further marginalization and isolation. A concern is the constant evolutionary change in social networking; the change needs to be accessible.



# APPY IDEAS/SOLUTIONS

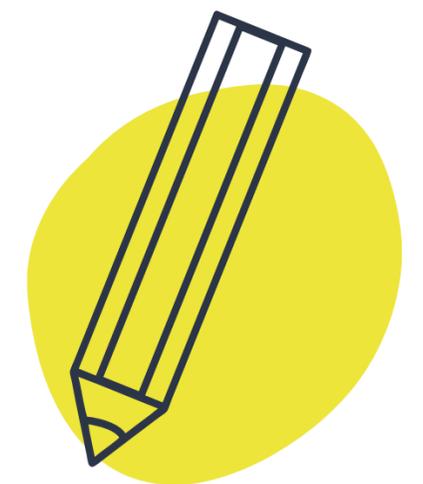


**Digital literacy means being able to understand and use technology.**

Being smart and skilled digitally means you can do more online for yourself, use & create information online in a productive & useful way.

Use themed projects with skills which require the learner to practice many subsets of digital literacy such as:

- Writing and sending emails
- Making transactions such as purchasing online
- Problem solving - how to do something
- Keeping information safe and secure



# TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

## **Apps/Software/Resources**

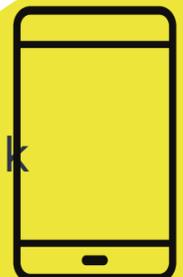
### **WhatsApp is Available from android, apple and as a desktop app**

The user interface takes aspects from social media, for example, status which makes it familiar. Call, camera, chats/ groups, and settings are all listed below similar to Apple's default apps with the ability to send media, links and docs. The starred message option allows you to save individual messages. If you prefer to use a keyboard then Whatsapp allows you to connect with a desktop. The app also streamlines gathering contacts, instead of typing a number down you can simply scan their Whatsapp QR code.

### **Online resources to build digital literacy skills for over 50's**

Any person over 50 is eligible for free resources. A person with diverse learning needs could be assisted to learn with these simple resources via a parent/carer signing up on the website. Learning Together is an option and look out for local serives who are BeConnected Partners.

<https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/>



# REAL LIFE

TikTok is currently a widely accepted social media platform that individuals and equally businesses can showcase events, news, products, opinions and other fun entertaining purposes such as challenges (mainly dance).

A 20 year old who has goals to increase independence, eat healthier, shop and budget for weekly expenses. These scenarios can be played out and turned into a TikTok as a way to engage a young adult in learning that may otherwise be considered a tad boring.

Engaging the learner in making the TikTok has been a way to support someone to use technology/apps to improve their digital literacy and yet meet their functional life skill goals/needs.

