Why Develop Skills with Digital Communication Tools?

For many students, digital tools are becoming a basic part of daily life. By understanding how to use digital tools and applications, you will learn skills that will help you in school and in your career.

Digital Communication Tools is intended to help you develop skills needed to succeed in school and throughout your life. This textbook was written and designed to help you achieve each of the following goals:

Become a 21st Century Digital Citizen

- ◆ Understand how to use technology wisely and safely
- ◆ Understand how computers, digital tools, and the Internet work
- ◆ Evaluate the accuracy and usefulness of information on the Web
- ◆ Find and share information quickly, safely, and ethically
- ◆ Understand the norms of behavior as a citizen in the digital age

Become an Effective User of Technology Tools

- ◆ Become a skilled user of PDAs, speech recognition, and Tablet PCs.
- ◆ Become a skilled and creative user of Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access.
- Create interesting projects using both individual applications and integrated applications.
- ◆ Become an effective researcher using the resources of the World Wide Web.
- ◆ Become an expert at navigating the Web and evaluating Web sites.

Develop Learning and Study Skills for All Subjects

- ◆ Improve reading comprehension with both guided and independent reading strategies
- ◆ Develop critical thinking skills
- ◆ Build teamwork skills
- ◆ Integrate technology skills across the curriculum
- ◆ Offer constructive feedback to improve your own and others' projects.

BE AN ACTIVE READER!

When you read this textbook, you will be learning about technology and how it is used in the world around you. This textbook is a good example of non-fiction writing—it describes real-world ideas and facts. It is also an example of technical writing because it tells you how to use technology.

Here are some reading strategies that will help you become an active textbook reader. Choose the strategies that work best for you. If you have trouble as you read your textbook, look back at these strategies for help.

Before You Read

SET A PURPOSE

- ♦ Why am I reading the textbook?
- ◆ How might I be able to use what I learn in my own life?

PREVIEW

- Read the chapter title to find out what the topic will be.
- ◆ Read the subtitles to see what I will learn about the topic.
- Skim the photos, charts, graphs, or maps.
- ◆ Look for vocabulary words that are boldfaced. How are they defined?

DRAW FROM YOUR OWN BACKGROUND

- ◆ What do I already know about the topic?
- ◆ How is the new information different from what I already know?

As You Read

OUESTION

- ♦ What is the main idea?
- ◆ How well do the details support the main idea?
- ◆ How do the photos, charts, graphs, and maps support the main idea?

CONNECT

◆ Think about people, places, and events in my own life. Are there any similarities with those in your textbook?

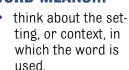
PREDICT

◆ Can I predict events or outcomes by using clues and information that I already know.

VISUALIZE

- ◆Can I imagine the settings, actions, and people that are described.
- ◆ Can I use/create graphic organizers to help me see relationships found in the information.

IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT A WORD MEANS...



- check if prefixes such as un-, non-, or precan help you break down the word.
- look up the word's definition in a dictionary or glossary.



READING DOS

Do...

- establish a purpose for reading.
- ✓ think about how your own experiences relate to the topic.
- try different reading strategies.



READING DON'TS

Don't...

- o ignore how the textbook is organized.
- allow yourself to be easily distracted.
- hurry to finish the material.

After You Read

SUMMARIZE

- ◆ What have I learned from this text?
- ◆ How can I apply what I have learned?

ASSESS

- ♦ What was the main idea?
- ◆ Did the text clearly support the main idea?
- ◆ Can I use this new information in other school subjects or at home?



Understanding the Unit

Welcome to *Digital Communication Tools*! Your textbook is divided into four units, each beginning with a two-page unit opener.

Digital Communication
Tools and Skills

Handheld Computers—PDAS

Speech Recognition Tools

On-Screen Writing—Tablet PCS

Additional Features of Digital Tools

Language Arts—Reading
Language Arts—Writing
Social Studies
Technology

The first page gives you a preview of topics covered in the chapters in the unit.

Curriculum Connections gives you a snapshot of the links to core academics you will study in this unit.

In the project project you research on the Internet, gather data, and make presentations using digital tools. You will see how the use of digital tools integrates with core academics. Link the new digital input skills you learn in each unit with academic subjects as follows:

Unit 1—Language Arts

Unit 2—Social Studies

Unit 3—Science

Unit 4-Math



You start your **Digital Dimension** project here and continue building your project at the end of each chapter in this unit. Your project culminates in the **Unit Lab** with a presentation to your class.

Understanding the Chapter

There are 15 chapters, 3 or 4 in each unit. The two-page chapter opener gives you a brief introduction to the new material that will be covered in the chapter.



The first page gives you a preview of lessons in the chapter.

You Will Learn To:

Read these learning objectives to preview skills you will gain in the chapter.

When Will You Ever Use ...

You will find out how you can apply all the new skills you are learning.

Key Terms –

This is a list of the key terms that are introduced throughout the chapter. They are easy to find—look for them highlighted in yellow the first time they are defined in the text.



reading strategies to boost your understanding of new topics. This is a great resource; pick and combine many of these reading strategies to improve all of your reading and comprehension.

0000000 CONNECTION

Use this engaging activity to connect what you already know to what you will learn about digital communication tools in this chapter.

Understanding the Lessons

Each lesson introduces you to new topics in an easy-to-read format. You learn about the topics in the first page or two and then immediately start on step-by-step activities.

Beam a Memo

Key Terms

Look for the key terms highlighted and defined in the text and in the margin. Knowing these key terms will help you be an effective 21st century communicator.

DIGI Byte

You will find this in the margin in many lessons. This gives you important and useful tips on the topics in the lesson.

Suite Suite

You will find this in the margin in many lessons. This gives you tips on techniques that work in many different software applications, such as keyboard shortcuts.

RUBRIC LINK

Rubrics give you the opportunity to check the quality of your work. Find rubrics for each *Digital Communication Tools* Application at the Online Learning Center, digicom.glencoe.com.

You will learn to:

These learning objectives direct your reading as you progress through the lesson. Use these as a tool for previewing the lesson and for test review.

Concept Check

This is a quick check to review the topics introduced in the lesson. To check your understanding, ask your teacher for answers.

DOGODAO DIALOG

In this discussion activity you work in a small group to explore the lesson topics. You will develop one of the essential 21st century employability skills: working collaboratively in a team to achieve results.

Step-by-Step

In these hands-on activities, you immediately gain practical digital application skills.

Application

You will find one or more applications immediately after the stepby-step activities. This hands-on feature gives you the chance to apply the new skills you have learned.

Understanding the Features

Each chapter has a selection of the features shown on this page. They help you understand the practical and real-world application of the concepts that you will master throughout this book. Each feature actively involves you in discussing, applying, or evaluating what you are learning.

Look Who's D (G () T (A ()

You will find this column feature in various chapters. Each highlights real-world companies or organizations that are using digital tools in cutting-edge situations.

Topics covered include medical teams, Olympic security, the Giants baseball, digital dentistry, scientific research, the military, and the New York Fire Department (NYFD).

sharing information quickly can save a life. What are other ways these technologies would be valuable to doctors, dentists, school nurses, or team coaches? Work with a partner to create a story that describes such a situation.

ONLINE Resources

This refers to the *Digital Communication Tools*Student Online Learning Center, which is created specifically for this book. At **digicom.glencoe.com**, you will find more links to resources online.

Look Who's Digital Activity

The activity question gives you the opportunity to research current trends. Also, you will use your own creative-thinking skills.



Tech Ethics

You will find this feature in various chapters. Each presents a technology or workplace-related scenario requiring your ethical opinion.

This will help you develop your essential 21st century skills of social responsibility. Apply your own ethical and critical-thinking skills in the activity at the end.

ONLINE Resources

To find Web sites on this topic, visit the Digital Communication Tools Online Learning Center at **digicom.glencoe.com** Click on Lesson 0.0, XXXXXXXXXX



You will find this column feature in all the chapters. This gives you the opportunity to develop the essential 21st century learning and employability skill of problem solving. Analyze information and apply your critical-thinking skills.

Understanding the Features (continued)

Prepare for your future career by taking a look at how PDAs, Tablet PCs, and speech recognition are put to use in 21st century careers in the Digital Career Perspectives in Units 1 to 3. Then explore your own career path by participating in a four-part career project of your own in the Personal Career Perspective project in Unit 4.



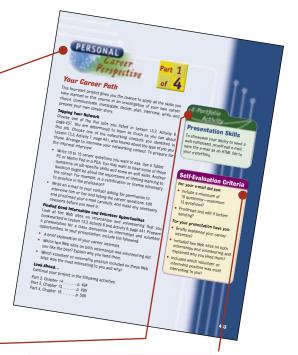
OOGOOOO Career Perspective

To help you prepare for your career you will view examples of 16 careers in Units 1 to 3 of this book. Each presents an occupation from 1 of the 16 career clusters outlined by the U.S. Department of Education. For each occupation, find out the salary range and the training, skills, and talents needed.

The final question, will often ask you to explore a related occupation in the career cluster and speculate whether this might be a career for you



This four-part project in Unit 4 gives you the chance to apply all the skills you have learned in this course in an investigation of your own career choice. Communicate, investigate, decide, plan, write, and present your own career story!





To showcase your new skills with digital communication tools and your 21^{st} century employability skills, you will build your own electronic portfolio.

Self-Evaluation Criteria

Use this handy self-evaluation checklist to achieve better results.

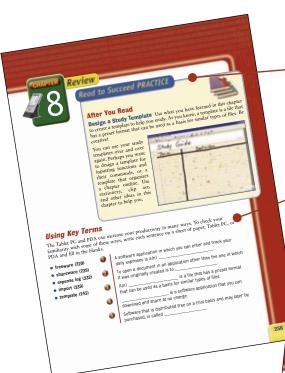
Understanding the Features (continued)

In every chapter, look for these real-world 21st Century Connection articles on a variety of topics, including essential 21st century learning skills, such as leadership, teamwork, media literacy, and self-direction. At the end of every chapter, you will find the continuation of the Digital Dimension project that you started in the unit opener.



Understanding Chapter Assessment

Find the Chapter Review and Chapter Self-Assessment at the end of every chapter. This gives you an opportunity to review the major concepts just covered. Activities help you review important technology and career terms.



Chapter Review

Read to Succeed PRACTICE

This section is designed to help you review the concepts in the chapter using an "After You Read" strategy.

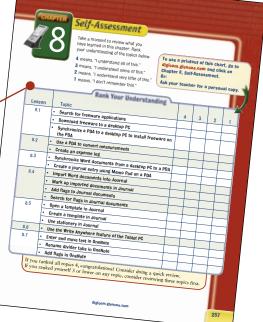
Using Key Terms

This activity will call on your recollection of the vocabulary words introduced throughout the chapter. You will be asked to complete the sentences or match the key term with its definition.

Chapter Self-Assessment

Rank Your Understanding

This exercise gives you the opportunity to rank your understanding of the topics covered in the chapter. This may be used as an aid to focus on where to begin your studying and review.



Understanding Unit Assessment

A two-page Digital Dimension Lab asks you to finalize your unit Digital Dimension project. It requires research, exploration, interaction, critical thinking, analysis, assessment, and finally a presentation to your class.



Unit Lab Page 1

This is the presentation you have been building towards throughout the unit. In this feature, you connect the new skills you have gained in the unit with core academics.

Unit Lab Page 2

Often you are guided through this lab in a step-by-step method. You gain confidence as you practice an essential 21st century skill: creating an effective oral, written, and multimedia communication to present to an audience.

Self-Evaluation Criteria

Before your presentation use this easy and fun self-evaluation checklist to ensure your success!

