

Understanding The Digital Tools And Technology At Your Fingertips

(You Don't Need To Be An Expert!)

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Definitions

- **Understand:** to know the meaning of (something, such as the words that someone is saying or a language)
- **Digital:** of, relating to, or utilizing devices constructed or working by the methods or principles of electronics
- **Tool:** a handheld device that aids in accomplishing a task
- **Technology:** the use of science in industry, engineering, etc., to invent useful things or to solve problems; a machine, piece of equipment, method, etc., that is created by technology
- **At one's fingertips:** instantly or readily available
- **Expert:** one with the special skill or knowledge representing mastery of a particular subject
- **Student:** a person who studies something; SCHOLAR, LEARNER
- **Wizard:** one skilled in magic
- **Science Fiction:** fiction based on imagined future scientific or technological advances
- **Technomancy:** In science fiction and fantasy, technomancy, also called technomagic, is a category of magical abilities that affect technology or magical powers that are gained through the use of technology.
- **Magic:** a power that allows people to do impossible things by saying special words or performing special actions
- **Effective:** producing a result that is wanted : having an intended effect
- **Efficient:** capable of producing desired results with little or no waste (as of time or materials)

Where is your mind set for learning?

- NASA Explorer's School (childlike wonder)
- Starfleet Academy (what does the future hold for science)
- Ilvermorny School of Witchcraft and Wizardry (anything is possible; the world is full of magic)
- Any place that keeps you on the edge of "anything is possible" (Rivendell, Jedi Academy, etc.)
- Accessing Higher Ground (professional– this is what is here in front of us now)
 - what is real, what is possible, is AHG all of the above?

Effective or efficient?

- *A buffet is effective* – everyone gets access to everything and can sort through and pick what they want (need); however, the user is left on their own and a lot is wasted
- *A menu is efficient* – everyone selects only those items that are most wanted (needed); a waiter (guide) is required, and less is wasted

How do we create our "inventory"?

- Ask the questions
- Always keep an open mind

How to explore

- If we strive to become an expert in anything, it should be how to search

Internet Search Tips

- Understand the symbols of searching (using "" 'and' 'or', etc.) [Google Modifiers](#)
- Key words can produce better results than whole sentences
- Lists are your friend (finding an article with lists)
- Go to primary source when available (apple site, Microsoft site, google site, etc.)
- Editing the date range can help for research purposes when you want to find current sources (you click the tools button after you hit enter on your search)

Collaborate (Today!)

Resource Document: bit.ly/AHGmagic2021

- Assistive Technology – General
 - Speech-To-Text Programs (Dictation)
 - Text-To-Speech Programs (Read Aloud)
 - Conversion Programs
- Creating Accessibility and Incorporating Universal Design for Instruction (UDI)
 - How-To Information
 - Accessibility Tools
 - Communication Tools
 - UDI Resources
- Digital Tools and Assistive Technologies
 - Note Taking Systems / Programs
 - Reading and Writing Support
 - Screen Readers
 - Voice Control
- Resources & Additional Information
- Questions - Seeking More Information On...

How do we find answers to unknown questions?

The individual approach – Tips for asking questions

- Identify the platforms / devices the individual has access to first
- Ask WHY a problem is frustrating someone often helps to focus towards a particular program or path to start on when they aren't sure what to ask about
- Have visual examples available to show (as well as sample files)
- Meet the individual where they are at considering comfort and language of technology (example: they may not know what "dictation" means, or be uncomfortable with a certain browser)

Why does it matter?

- Every individual matters; when we reach one, we reach the world

Points to ponder

Life Lessons – Star Trek

- Never stop exploring and don't be afraid to question the status quo
- Don't interfere in other's lives unless they're ready
- Speak to people in their own language
- Lead boldly, but also listen (learn from others)
- Join the away team, encourage disagreement, ask for advice, and embrace diversity
- Believe that there's always a solution and in every decision, use logic and emotion

Life Lessons – The Lord of the Rings

- You are capable of doing unexpectedly big things
- Learn to trust
- Keep trying

Life Lessons – Harry Potter

- Community is important; talk about things
- The path is shown by Felix Felicis (believe in yourself)
- A good teacher is a great thing; if you need help, ask for it
- Be a doer, not a dreamer (if you ask yourself "what if...", research it!)
- Older doesn't mean wiser (learn with and from others, no matter their age)
- Magic is real

Quotes

- **Carl Sagan:** We live in a society exquisitely dependent on science and technology, in which hardly anyone knows anything about science and technology.
- **Rod Serling:** Fantasy is the impossible made probable. Science Fiction is the improbably made possible.
- **Arthur C. Clarke:** Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.
- **Bill Gates:** I don't know has become I don't know yet.
- **Daniel J. Boorstin:** The greatest obstacle to discovery is not ignorance - it is the illusion of knowledge.
- **Ralph Waldo Emerson:** The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.
- **Robert Louis Stevenson:** Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.
- **Henry Van Dyke:** Use what talents you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best.

Bonus

- [The Magic of Tech YouTube video](#)

Resources

Definitions

- [Merriam-Webster Dictionary](#)
- [Wikipedia](#)

Various “points to ponder”

- [4 Life Lessons Learned From 'The Lord of the Rings'](#)
- [5 leadership lessons from the captains of Star Trek](#)
- [7 Lessons 'Star Trek' Taught Us About Life, Leadership and Diversity](#)
- [9 things we can learn from Harry Potter](#)
- [10 Life Lessons from Harry Potter](#)
- [15 magical life lessons we learned from 'Harry Potter'](#)
- [Everything You Need to Know in Life You Can Learn From Star Trek](#)

Image Sources

- Various graphics from [Clipart Library](#)
- Picture quotes from [AZ Quotes](#)
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