

*Digital literacy* and *digital fluency* are two terms that are closely related; however, there are some important differences between the two terms. Both terms are referring to an individual's ability to use technology in order to accomplish a task or achieve a desired result (christian, 2012; "The Essential," 2012; "Digital Fluency," n.d.; Spencer, 2015). Where the two terms differ is in the scope of an individual's ability to use digital technology (christian, 2012; "The Essential," 2012; "Digital Fluency," n.d.; Spencer, 2015).

*Digital literacy* typically refers to having the skills needed to successfully use a variety of technologies (christian, 2012; "The Essential," 2012; "Digital Fluency," n.d.; Spencer, 2015). By having digital literacy, individuals can encounter a variety of technological devices and use them in a sufficient manner (christian, 2012; "The Essential," 2012; "Digital Fluency," n.d.; Spencer, 2015). In other words, digital literacy refers to an individual's ability to get by with a variety of different technologies. *Digital fluency* refers to having such a deep understanding of the technology and how to use it that you can create and design, instead of merely get by (christian, 2012; "The Essential," 2012; "Digital Fluency," n.d.; Spencer, 2015).

In today's world, being familiar with and knowing how to use a variety of technologies is vital. No matter what field you are in, it is likely that you encounter technology regularly, if not every day. Because of the important role technology plays in today's society, many schools are placing importance on developing digital literacy and digital fluency in students (Peterson, 1999; Mckee-Waddell, 2015; "Peers say," 2017). By developing digital literacy and fluency in school, students will be more equipped to face a variety of job options and conduct themselves thoughtfully on social media and other online locations (Mckee-Waddell, 2015; "Peers say," 2017).

I believe you put this term on the list of those to research in order to make us aware of our current understanding of technology. By understanding the definitions, we can better identify our current level of abilities and see where we can improve.

## References

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