

### Middle Years Focus on IT

Digital Skills for Grades 6-9

#### The Future Starts Now

Introducing students to information and communications technology (ICT) during the middle school years is an effective way to help them prepare for a bright future full of real possibilities.

#### What's ICT?

Information and communications technology is any technology that provides access to information through telecommunications. This includes the Internet, computers, wireless networks, mobile devices, and other forms of communication.

ICT also encompasses new technologies like 5G Mobile, AI, Virtual/Augmented Reality and Blockchain, which are creating new sectors in the economy, including Clean Tech, Connected Transportation, Intelligent Retail, eHealth, FinTech and Biotechnology.

## **Help Students Navigate the Digital Shift**

It's not too soon to start. ICTs are being adopted across every industry in Canada, from healthcare to energy, from manufacturing to agriculture.

Regardless of the direction a student chooses to take, integrating ICT and digital skills is critical to opening doors to their future careers.

#### Middle Years Focus on IT

Middle Years Focus on IT (MyFIT) is a Canada-wide program designed to expand the understanding that students in grades 6-9 have of technology. It aims to enhance digital literacy skills within a collaborative learning environment.

The program is flexible and outlines core learning outcomes that can be adjusted to meet the needs of the class. Through engaging activities, educators lay the foundation for concepts used in business and technology.

The program provides a practical, hands-on experience for students and promotes innovative and strategic thinking, and can create a learning pathway into secondary schools delivering the Focus on IT (FIT) program.









#### Your future starts now

Your professional career may seem like a long way off, but it's never too soon to think about what your interests are. Middle school is the perfect time to start exploring.

Do you have any hobbies? Is there a special activity you really enjoy? By identifying a general direction now, you'll be better prepared for selecting your high school courses

Did you know some programs in college or university require you to take certain courses in high school? Many students are not aware that post-secondary programs have designated "prerequisite" courses that you need to complete before graduating high school.

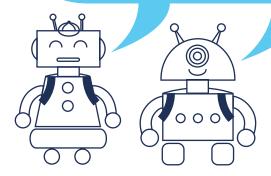
By learning about career options now, you will know what courses to take in high school!

## Discover ICT— it's all around you!

Information and communication technologies (ICT) are any technology that involve a communication device or application. Your mobile phone, tablet, apps, the Internet, TV, radio and your computer are all part of ICT!

There are hundreds of different ICT careers - no matter what your interests are, starting to learn about ICT today will give you more choice tomorrow in whatever direction you take.

WEB DEVELOPER PHOTOGRAPHER CYBERSECURITY SPECIALIST
INDUSTRIAL DESIGNER ONLINE PUBLISHER AEROSPACE ENGINEER
APP DEVELOPER TECHNICAL WRITER SOCIAL MEDIA EXPERT
WEB MASTER DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR PROGRAMMER HEALTH TECHNICIAN
GAME DEVELOPER ILLUSTRATOR SAFETY ENGINEER VIDEO EDITOR
GRAPHIC DESIGNER AUDIO ENGINEER CONTENT DESIGNER
ANIMATOR ART DIRECTOR WEB DESIGNER AND MORE!



# So what path do you take in school?

- 1. Ask your parent(s), career counsellor or teacher what courses you should take to prepare for high school studies in ICT.
- 2. Research with your parent(s) or guardian what high schools in your area offer ICT-specific streams or have a good range of ICT-related courses.
- 3. Enroll in ICT courses. When you graduate from high school, you'll be prepared to enter a college or university program in an ICT-related field.