

LITERACY NEW WEST DEFINITION OF TERMS



LITERACY

"Literacy is the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate, compute and use printed and written materials associated with varying contexts. Literacy involves a continuum of learning to enable an individual to achieve his or her goals, to develop his or her knowledge and potential, and to participate fully in the wider society." – UNESCO



ADULT LITERACY

The ability to read, write, and speak, the ability to compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency necessary to function on the job and in society, achieve one's goals, and develop one's knowledge and potential. It is important to remember, however, that the level of essential skills needed to meet any definition of literacy will necessarily change as the demands of the workplace, the family, and the society change.



FAMILY LITERACY

Refers to the many ways families develop and use literacy skills, from enjoying a storybook together, to playing word games, singing, writing to a relative or friend, sharing day-to-day tasks such as making a shopping list or using a recipe, and surfing the Internet.



HEALTH LITERACY

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines health literacy as "the degree to which an individual has the capacity to obtain, communicate, process, and understand basic health information and services to make appropriate health decisions."

Health literacy refers to the combination of skills and knowledge that a person needs to possess in order to access, understand and apply information relating to his or her health effectively and consistently.



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FINANCIAL LITERACY

The ability to understand and discuss financial concepts and apply them to your own financial situation. It includes skills like budgeting, paying bills on time, making decisions about financial products, planning for the future and being prepared in the event of a setback or emergency.



PHYSICAL LITERACY

Is the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge, and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life. decisions about financial products, planning for the future and being prepared in the event of a setback or emergency.



WORKPLACE LITERACY

Refers to the fundamental skills employees need to have in order to fulfil their work functions and manage the demands of their jobs in a healthy, productive way. These skills include both essential skills and employability or soft skills.

Increasing workplace literacy skills training lays the foundation for healthy, confident, productive workers who are able to grow with their industry, adapt to technological and workforce changes and transition through all phases of their employment.



DIGITAL LITERACY

Refers to an individual's ability to find, evaluate, and compose clear information through writing and other mediums on various digital platforms.