



Year 2 – Information technology around us

Unit introduction

Learners will develop their understanding of what information technology (IT) is and will begin to identify examples. They will discuss where they have seen IT in school and beyond, in settings such as shops, hospitals, and libraries. Learners will then investigate how IT improves our world, and they will learn about the importance of using IT responsibly.

Overview of sessions

Session	Brief overview	Learning objectives
1 What is IT?	Learners will develop their understanding of what information technology (IT) is. They will identify devices that are computers and consider how IT can help them both at school and beyond.	To recognise the uses and features of information technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can identify examples of computers • I can describe some uses of computers • I can identify that a computer is a part of IT
2 IT in school	Learners will consider common uses of information technology in a context that they are familiar with. They will identify examples of IT and be able to explain the purpose of different examples of IT in the school setting.	To identify the uses of information technology in the school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can identify examples of IT

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can sort school IT by what it's used for • I can identify that some IT can be used in more than one way
3 IT in the world	Learners will begin to explore IT in environments beyond school, including home and familiar places such as shops. They will talk about the uses of IT in these environments and be able to explain that IT is used in many workplaces.	<p>To identify information technology beyond school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can find examples of information technology • I can sort IT by where it is found • I can talk about uses of information technology
4 The benefits of IT	Learners will explore the benefits of using IT in the wider world. They will focus on the use of IT in a shop and how devices can work together. Learners will sort activities based on whether they use IT or not and will be able to say why we use IT.	<p>To explain how information technology helps us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can recognise common types of technology • I can demonstrate how IT devices work together • I can say why we use IT
5 Using IT safely	Learners will consider how they use different forms of information technology safely, in a range of different environments. They will list	To explain how to use information technology safely

	different uses of IT and talk about the different rules that might be associated with using them. Learners will then say how rules can help keep them safe when using IT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can list different uses of information technology • I can talk about different rules for using IT • I can say how rules can help keep me safe
6 Using IT in different ways	Learners will think about the choices that are made when using information technology, and the responsibility associated with those choices. They will use IT in different types of activities and explain that sometimes they will need to use IT in different ways.	<p>To recognise that choices are made when using information technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can identify the choices that I make when using IT • I can use IT for different types of activities • I can explain the need to use IT in different ways

Progression

This unit progresses learners' understanding of technology and how they interact with it. They will develop this understanding to become familiar with the term information technology and will be able to identify common features of IT. This unit also builds on the learners' understanding of using technology safely and responsibly.

Please see the learning graph for this unit for more information about progression.

Curriculum links

National curriculum links

- Use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate, and retrieve digital content
- Recognise common uses of information technology beyond school
- Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private; identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies

Education for a Connected World links

Health, well-being, and lifestyle

- I can identify rules that help keep us safe and healthy in and beyond the home when using technology
- I can give some simple examples

Assessment

Formative assessment

Assessment opportunities are detailed in each session plan. The learning objective and success criteria are introduced in the slide deck at the beginning of each session and then reviewed at the end. Learners are invited to assess how well they feel they have met the learning objective using thumbs up, thumbs sideways, or thumbs down.

Subject knowledge

You will need to have a clear understanding of devices that can be described as information technology (IT). For younger learners, IT can be explained as being a computer or something that has been made to work with computers.

Examples could include:

- Computers: PCs, laptops, tablets

- Devices made to work with computers: scanners, barcode scanners, printers., smart speakers

You will also need to be aware that as technology continues to develop rapidly, some devices may fit in multiple categories. For example, a multifunction printer has a computer (processor) inside. It can work with a computer or independently.

You will need to know where technology can be found in shops and how it can be used. You should also know which devices can work together, for example:

- Barcode scanner, till
- Bank card, chip and PIN card reader, till
- Traffic light, crossing button, crossing signal

You can find some useful information and a short video about barcodes at www.waspbarcode.com/buzz/barcode.

This unit ties in to key concepts from Education for a Connected World and you should be familiar with this document. You should also be familiar with your schools' online safety policy.

You will need to be familiar with the Digital 5 a Day concept. More information on Digital 5 a Day can be found here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/our-work/digital/5-a-day.

Enhance your subject knowledge to teach this unit through the following training opportunities:

Online training courses

- [Raspberry Pi Foundation online training courses](#)

Face-to-face courses

- [National Centre for Computing Education face-to-face training courses](#)

Resources are updated regularly — the latest version is available at: ncce.io/tcc.

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