



Information Literacy: Key to the Information Age

A UELMA Presentation on March 2, 2006 by Brian Ferguson
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“Information Literacy is defined as the ability to know when there is a need for information, and to be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively use that information for the issue or problem at hand.”

-- National Forum on Information Literacy

Web links

<http://www.bibliotech.us/pdfs/InfoLit.pdf> Information Literacy Ebook (Adobe pdf)
<http://infolit.bibliotech.us> Information literacy resources for teachers and librarians
<http://www.infolit.org> National Forum on Information Literacy website
<http://nealib.bibliotech.us> The website of the Library, Information Literacy, and Technology caucus of the National Education Association
<http://journal.bibliotech.us> Brian Ferguson’s blog “A Librarian’s Journal”
<http://brainwave.bibliotech.us> Brian Ferguson’s educational podcast “BrainWave”
<http://www.bookvoyages.com> Art Spencer’s podcast about children’s literature

Free software to download and play with

- IrfanView makes it easy to resize, crop, rotate, and otherwise edit digital pictures.
- Picasa is the easiest way to manage, view, print, and email your digital pictures.
- Nvu is a web authoring system for Windows, Macintosh and Linux.
- Audacity is digital audio recording and editing software.
- Art Rage is a digital drawing and painting program

Software you may want to buy

- Inspiration (brainstorming, idea processing, and graphic organizer creator)
- Adobe Photoshop or Photoshop Elements (image processing)
- Macromedia Dreamweaver (web site creation)
- Corel Paint (digital drawing and painting with the mouse or a drawing “tablet”)

Information Literacy skills you might develop next

- Digital photography (Buy or borrow a digital camera, take a bunch of pictures, upload them to your computer, and “manipulate” them.)
- Web page design (It’s easy to get something online quickly and improve it later.)
- Blogging (Try setting up a simple journal and/or announcements page at <http://www.blogger.com>.)
- Digital audio recording and processing (Play with music, or record a podcast.)
- Drawing and/or painting (physically or digitally)

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