Critical Issue: Using Technology to Promote Literacy

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The article discusses the shift in how technology is revolutionizing technological instruction. With this revolution some teachers have embraced literacy. Others have remained skeptical about its usage. The article goes onto answer the questions: 1. Why is technology an essential part of the literacy world? What are the best resources available to integrate this into the curriculum? 3. What are the different definitions of literacy and what does that really mean? 4. How to best integrate technology into the curriculum? 5. What skills are required to effectively integrate technology into the curriculum? 6.

Some of the conclusions drawn from the study include that it is not the technology itself which is helpful but the skills as well as opportunities the technology provides. Sometimes all parties lose focus on what is really important about literacy support. Another valid point made about literacy technology is that the impact of technologies will not always be allowed to be measured due to advancement. In many cases just when people begin having success with a program a newer version or different program comes out that does the work better. Therefore individuals must simply trust that the newer versions of what is already working will be better.

The Article goes onto define different literacy technological applications that will help students with reading. Some examples include online books, audio books, and various software programs. Also specifics are given about not only programs but how those programs help student's literacy abilities. Specific programs mentioned are word processing, multimedia programs, and Internet Communication. Moreover specifics are given about how the internet helps student's research skills.

The article also lays out some goals teachers should have regarding technology and literacy. Following this the article provides all parties involved in action options. The article informs teachers, parents, and all other groups with a step by step comprehensive approach to installing literacy technology. Next the article discusses the possible pit falls involved in literacy technology. The article concludes with illustrative cases of how literacy technology has helped all ages of students with their reading and writing.

Three strengths of the study include the following. 1. The researcher proves how, when, where, and why literacy technology is a positive advancement. 2. Provides all parties involved in literacy education with an order of implementation of literacy technology. 3. Explains the obstacles of literacy technology.

Three weaknesses of the study include. 1. Could have been more specific about how technology benefits students. 2. Could have used stronger illustrative cases. 3. In the conclusion could have been stronger instead of staying in the middle of the road.

In conclusion from this article the reader could learn the following. What is literacy and why is it important. How technology helps literacy. What the process is for implementing literacy technology. Specifically what each special interest group can do as well as expect from literacy. Lastly and most importantly how individuals overcome the challenges of literacy education.