Digital Learning
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Students' Digital Lives
By cultivating an awareness of the issues below, teachers can help students connect the literacy practices they learn in school to their busy lives outside the classroom.

New Literacies In the digital age, many students are fl uent in new languages, or literacies—for example, those of instant messaging, text messaging, and blogging.

Increased Media Use Teens spend an average of six hours per day using media (Kaiser Family Foundation, 2005).

Internet as Reference Text An increasing number of young people use the Internet as their primary reference text for everything, including school assignments.

Using Technology to Teach
New technologies—and the media they make available— appeal to a variety of learners. These technologies can help motivate students at all levels to engage in reading, writing, and the use of other literacies, including traditional, school-based literacies and multiple texts (O'Brien, 2001, 2003). To incorporate digital learning into your classroom, use the tips below.

Connect print text to digital text. Look for Web sites that support kids' reading. An emerging body of research shows that engagement with online texts can motivate struggling readers to read print texts as well (O'Brien, 2001; 2003, in press).
*In **Glencoe Literature,** Literature Online resources encourage readers to research topics and authors by providing additional content and activities and by linking to reliable, related Web sites. These sorts of intertextual links help motivate struggling, disengaged readers who are often tired of typical textbook formats.*

Connect print text to other media. Connecting print texts to other popular media genres (e.g., graphic novels, video games, film, and music) motivates all learners.

*Literature Launchers: Pre-Reading Videos offer engaging video segments that introduce each Unit and key selections in **Glencoe Literature.** Listening Library Audio CDs, StudentWorks™ Plus, and the Online Student Edition offer audio reads of each selection. The Media Workshop DVD supports media literacy instruction with authentic video segments and also provides students with interactive tools to create their own media.*

Utilize other digital resources to enhance learning. Digital tools can be used to supplement more traditional instructional and practice methods, providing students with motivating reteaching and extension opportunities.

Glencoe Literature StudentWorks™ Plus and Online Student Edition give students digitized work centers wherein they can access their textbook and point-of-use multimedia resources. Skill Level Up!™ and Glencoe Visual Vocabulary help students practice and master reading, vocabulary, and other language arts skills in familiar game-based environments.

Research

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