

Getting Started with EasyTech in Grade 8

Beginning of the Year - Create student technology portfolios by printing EasyTech Certificates, reports, and Journal entries. Use the Implementation Model document, found in the Resource section, to help you decide how to deliver unit items. Take plenty of pictures of your students in the learning process to be used at the end of the year.

Each week contains approximately 90 minutes of instruction time. Remember to provide students with time each week to improve their keyboarding accuracy and speed through Adaptive Keyboarding after they have completed the keyboarding lessons and guided practice exercises.

TOPIC	MONTH 1	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Keyboarding	Week 1	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Whole Group	Adaptive Keyboarding
		Healthy Computing	Whole Group	Discussion
Online Safety	Week 2	Online Safety	Independent	Lesson
		Online Status Message Basics Discussion	Whole Group	Discussion
		Understanding Identity Theft Discussion	Whole Group	Discussion
	Week 3	Texting Safety Discussion	Whole Group	Discussion
		Dealing With Cyberbullying	Independent	Lesson
	Week 4	The Bystander Effect	Independent	Application Exercise
		Digital Citizenship Quiz	Independent	Quiz
		Ethical Use of Digital Resources	Independent	Lesson
		Online Ethics	Whole Group	Discussion
Keyboarding	All	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Independent	Adaptive Keyboarding

Tips & Suggestions - These lessons are spiraled from previous years to help set a firm foundation for safe, appropriate, and effective technology use throughout the year. Begin the month with a whole group introduction to Adaptive Keyboarding so that students understand how to access and use if they finish their classwork early.

TOPIC	MONTH 2	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Online Safety	Week 1	Ethics and Consequences	Independent	Application Exercise
		Navigating Ribbon Interfaces	Independent	Lesson
		Input, Output, and Files	Whole Group	Discussion
Hardware and Software Fundamentals	Week 2	Networking	Independent	Lesson
		Network Compatibility	Whole Group	Discussion
	Week 3	Using Networks	Independent	Application Exercise
		Mobile Devices: Technology To Go	Independent	Lesson
		Cloud Computing	Independent	Lesson
Computational Thinking and Coding	Week 4	Computer Fundamentals Unit Quiz	Independent	Quiz
		Computational Thinking: Algorithmic Problem Solving	Independent	Lesson
Keyboarding	All	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Independent	Adaptive Keyboarding

Tips & Suggestions - When students finish their work with class time remaining, have them practice their keyboarding skills using Adaptive Keyboarding.

TOPIC	MONTH 3	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Computational Thinking and Coding	Week 1	Exploring the World Through a Disability	Small Group	Application Exercise
		Computational Thinking: Models and Simulations	Independent	Lesson
	Week 2	The Perfect Park	Independent	Application Exercise
	Week 3	The Perfect Park (Continued)	Independent	Application Exercise
		Computational Thinking: Implement and Test	Independent	Lesson
	Week 4	Egg-cellent Egg Drop	Small Group	Application Exercise
Keyboarding	All	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Independent	Adaptive Keyboarding

Tips & Suggestions - If you are new to computational thinking, complete the lessons alongside your students. Facilitate a discussion about other areas of life where computational thinking can be applied.

TOPIC	MONTH 4	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Computational Thinking and Coding	Week 1	Algorithmic Problem Solving Unit Quiz	Independent	Quiz
	Week 2	Building Your First Program	Blended Learning	Codesters
	Week 3	Codesters in Space	Blended Learning	Codesters
	Week 4	Shapes and Drawings	Blended Learning	Codesters
Keyboarding	All	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Independent	Adaptive Keyboarding

Tips & Suggestions - If you are new to coding, complete the lessons alongside your students.

TOPIC	MONTH 5	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Computational Thinking and Coding	Week 1	Chat with Your Sprite	Blended Learning	Codesters
	Week 2	Recycling Loop	Blended Learning	Codesters
Internet Usage and Online Communication	Week 3	Instant Messaging	Independent	Lesson
		Blogs	Independent	Lesson
		Mapping	Independent	Lesson
		Podcasts	Independent	Lesson
		Community Sites	Independent	Lesson
	Week 4	Personal Learning Networks	Independent	Lesson
		Present and Future You	Independent	Application Exercise
		Internet Essentials	Independent	Lesson
Keyboarding	All	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Independent	Adaptive Keyboarding

Tips & Suggestions - Remind students that being online is a responsibility and that they need to be careful whether at school or not.

TOPIC	MONTH 6	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Internet Usage and Online Communication	Week 1	Search Strategies	Independent	Lesson
		Mapping Tools and Global Citizenship	Independent	Lesson
		Booking Brian's Vacation	Independent	Application Exercise
	Week 2	Internet Usage Unit Quiz	Independent	Quiz
Put Word Processing to Work for You!		Independent	Application Exercise	
Word Processing	Week 3	Shaping Up	Independent	Lesson
		Visual Design	Independent	Lesson
		School Work	Independent	Lesson
	Week 4	Creating Original Works	Independent	Lesson
		Proofreading and Correcting	Independent	Game
		Alternative Solutions	Independent	Lesson
		Collaborative Tools in Word Processors	Independent	Application Exercise
	Keyboarding	All	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Independent

Tips & Suggestions - Provide students with opportunities to publish their classroom writing in word processing documents along with digital or hand drawn art that illustrates their writing. When students finish their work with class time remaining, have them practice keyboarding skills using their Adaptive Keyboarding assignments.

TOPIC	MONTH 7	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Word Processing	Week 1	Well Stated! Technical Writing	Independent	Application Exercise
		Word Processing Middle Grades Unit Quiz	Independent	Quiz
Spreadsheets	Week 2	Using Spreadsheets: Parts and Navigation	Independent	Lesson
		Using Spreadsheets: Basic Formatting	Independent	Lesson
		Using Spreadsheets: Formulas	Independent	Lesson
		Using Spreadsheets: Functions	Independent	Lesson
	Week 3	Now I'm Hungry	Independent	Application Exercise
	Week 4	Using Spreadsheets: Sharing and Filtering	Independent	Lesson
		Very Interesting	Independent	Application Exercise
Trends and Forecasts		Independent	Lesson	
Keyboarding	All	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Independent	Adaptive Keyboarding

Tips & Suggestions - Have students practice entering data to create spreadsheets based on content being studied in core curriculum classes, physical education class or other. When students finish their work with class time remaining, have them practice keyboarding skills using their Adaptive Keyboarding assignments.

TOPIC	MONTH 8	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Spreadsheets	Week 1	Cell Phone Usage	Independent	Application Exercise
		Spreadsheet Software Unit Quiz	Independent	Quiz
Presentations	Week 2	Presentation Basic Elements	Independent	Lesson
		Consistency and Visual Design	Independent	Lesson
		Consistency and Good Visual Design in Presentations	Independent	Application Exercise
	Week 3	Motion Design and Presenting	Independent	Lesson
		Non-Linear Presentation Design	Independent	Lesson
		Presentation Software Unit Quiz	Independent	Quiz
Week 4	Career Exploration	Independent	Application Exercise	
Keyboarding	All	The Urban Keyboarding Explorer	Independent	Adaptive Keyboarding

Tips & Suggestions - Remind students that presentations are more than just what is engaging on the screen. Help students understand that presenting includes their attitude, body language and voice tones. Facilitate a discussion about how to make a presentation engaging through voice.

TOPIC	MONTH 9	CURRICULUM TITLE	IMPLEMENTATION MODEL	TYPE
Multimedia	Week 1	Digital Graphics	Independent	Lesson
		Desktop Publishing	Independent	Lesson
		Video and Audio	Independent	Lesson
		Multimedia Unit Quiz	Independent	Quiz
	Week 2	Storytelling Through Film	Small Group	Application Exercise
Online Safety	Week 3	Online Status Messages Discussion (Review)	Whole Group	Discussion
		Understanding Identity Theft Discussion (Review)	Whole Group	Discussion
		Dealing with Cyberbullying (Review)	Whole Group	Discussion
		Texting Safety Discussion (Review)	Whole Group	Discussion
		Summer Online Safety PSA	Small Group	Application Exercise
	Week 4	Summer Online Safety PSA (Continued)	Small Group	Application Exercise
		Summer Online Safety PSA (Presentations)	Whole Group	Application Exercise
		Technology Showcase (Optional)		

Tips & Suggestions - It is important that students know they need to be careful when online, whether at school or not. Remind students to create an engaging Public Service Announcement (using the skills they have learned throughout the year) that helps others learn about the importance of online safety. Provide parents with resources like the [Parent Online Safety Guide](#) to help them keep their students safe online during the summer. Provide students and parents with ideas for continuing to practice their digital literacy skills during the summer.