

Literacy
is for life.

Thought for CHA

Listen carefully to this poetry performance.

What is his story?

Listen to his last line - 'What are my options. I can't read'?.

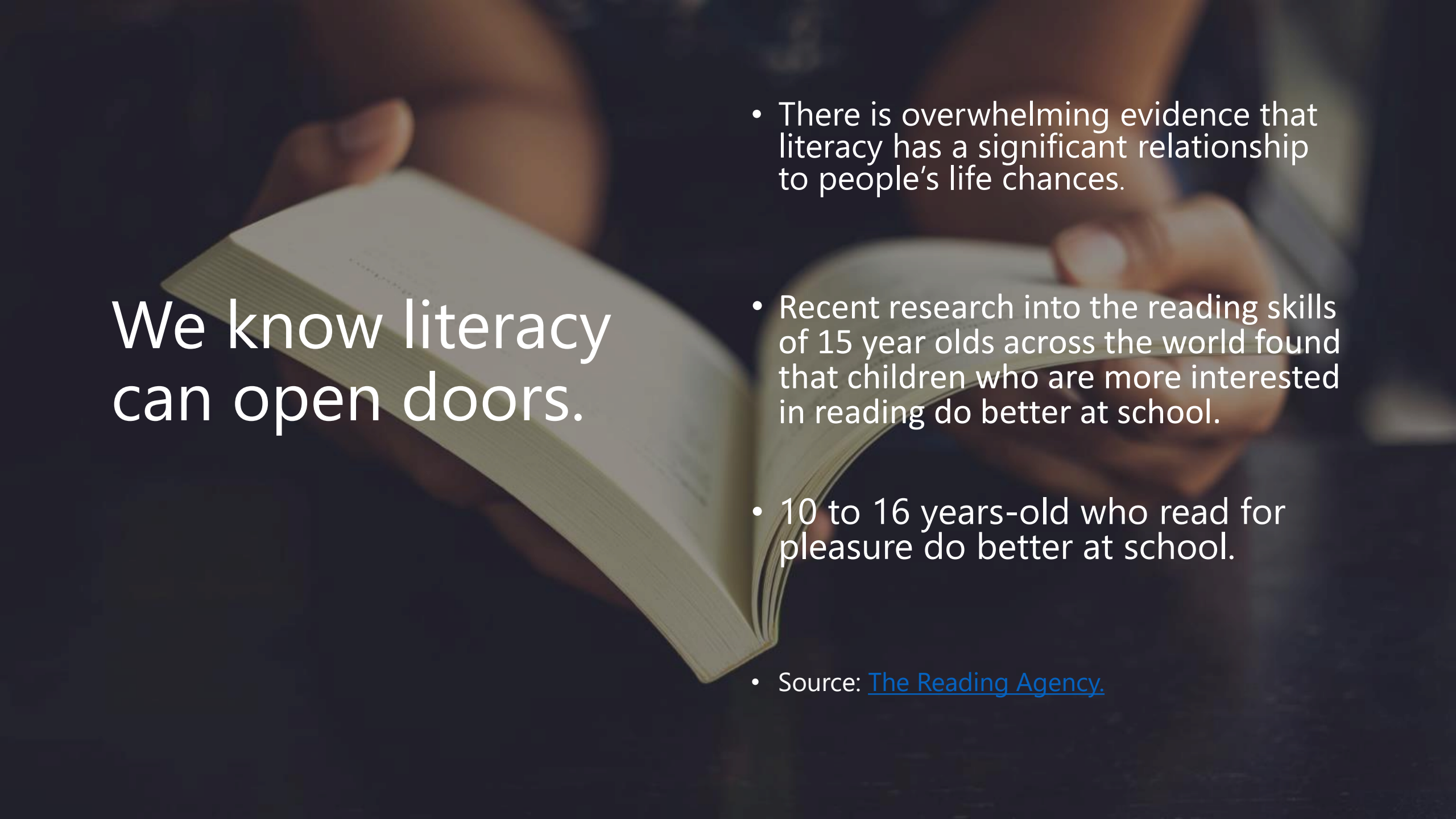


[Lamont Carey \(I Can't Read\) HBO Def Jam Poetry - YouTube](#)



because I can dribble
I can hit a three pointer
I can almost

- Lamont Carey was able to hide the fact that he couldn't read behind his talent for playing basketball.
- Once that talent was taken away from him, his options for making a living and supporting his family were almost non-existent, because he couldn't read.



We know literacy
can open doors.

- There is overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship to people's life chances.
- Recent research into the reading skills of 15 year olds across the world found that children who are more interested in reading do better at school.
- 10 to 16 years-old who read for pleasure do better at school.
- Source: [The Reading Agency](#).

However:

- Literacy for life is not just about reading books

What is literacy?

- **Literacy** is the ability to read, write, speak and listen in a way that lets us communicate effectively and make sense of the world.

Types of Literacies...

Critical Literacy

Whose voice is being heard?
Whose is being silenced?

Digital Literacy

What digital technology is
used to locate, organize,
understand, evaluate and
create information?

Media Literacy

Can you interpret techniques
and understand how media
messages are constructed?
How do media messages
manipulate and affect societal
development?

Informational Literacy

What information is needed?
Can you locate, evaluate and
use needed information
effectively?

Cultural Literacy

Do you understand text in
relation to their contexts?

Scientific Literacy

Do you know and understand
scientific concepts and
processes?

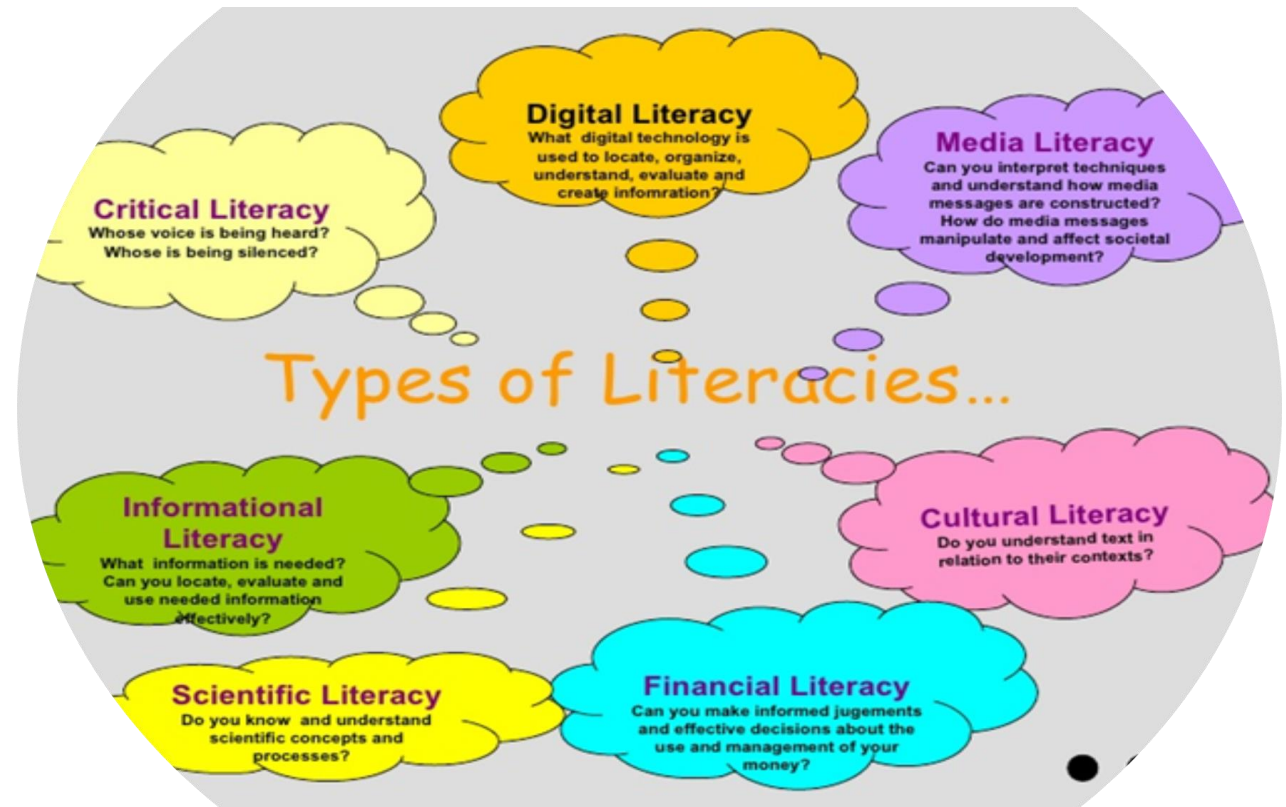
Financial Literacy

Can you make informed judgements
and effective decisions about the
use and management of your
money?

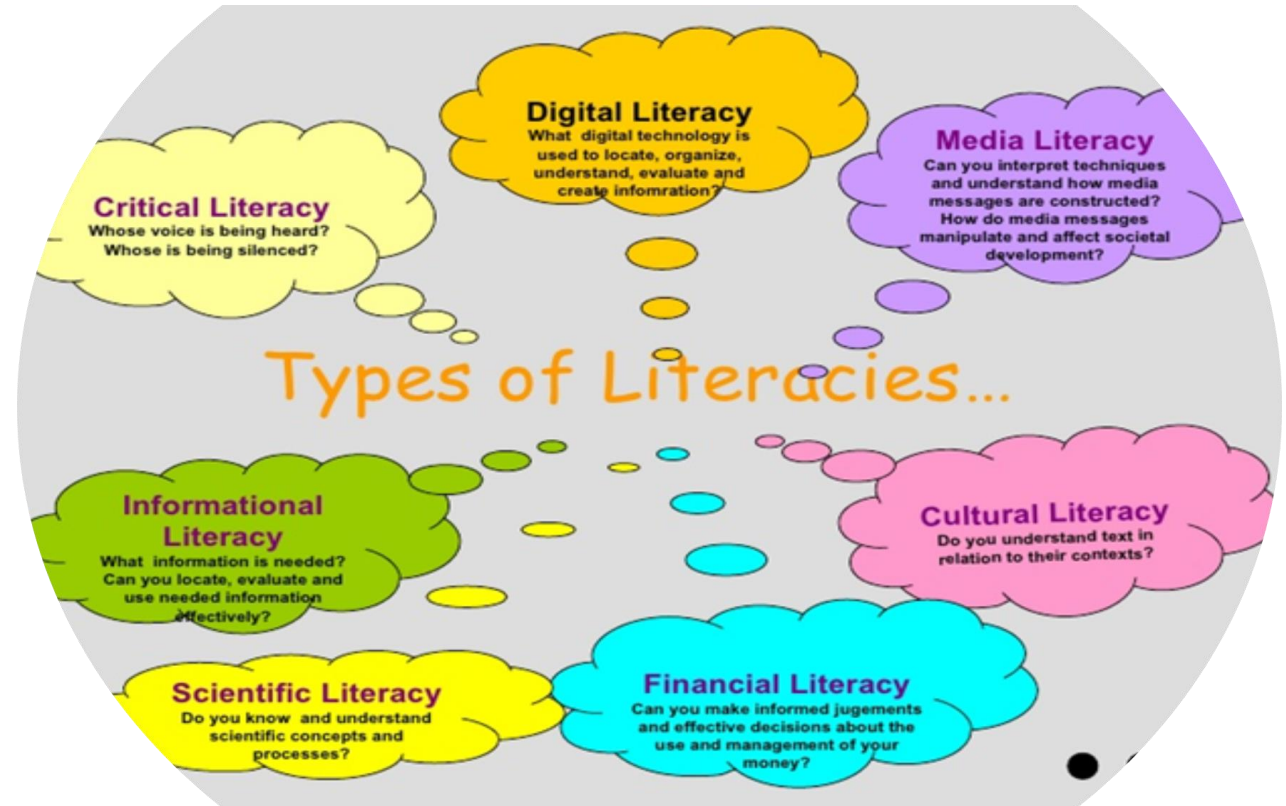
- Media literacy

- Media literacy is the ability to access, analyse, evaluate, and create media.

Media literate students are better able to understand the complex messages we receive from television, radio, Internet, newspapers, magazines, books, billboards, video games, music, and all other forms of media.

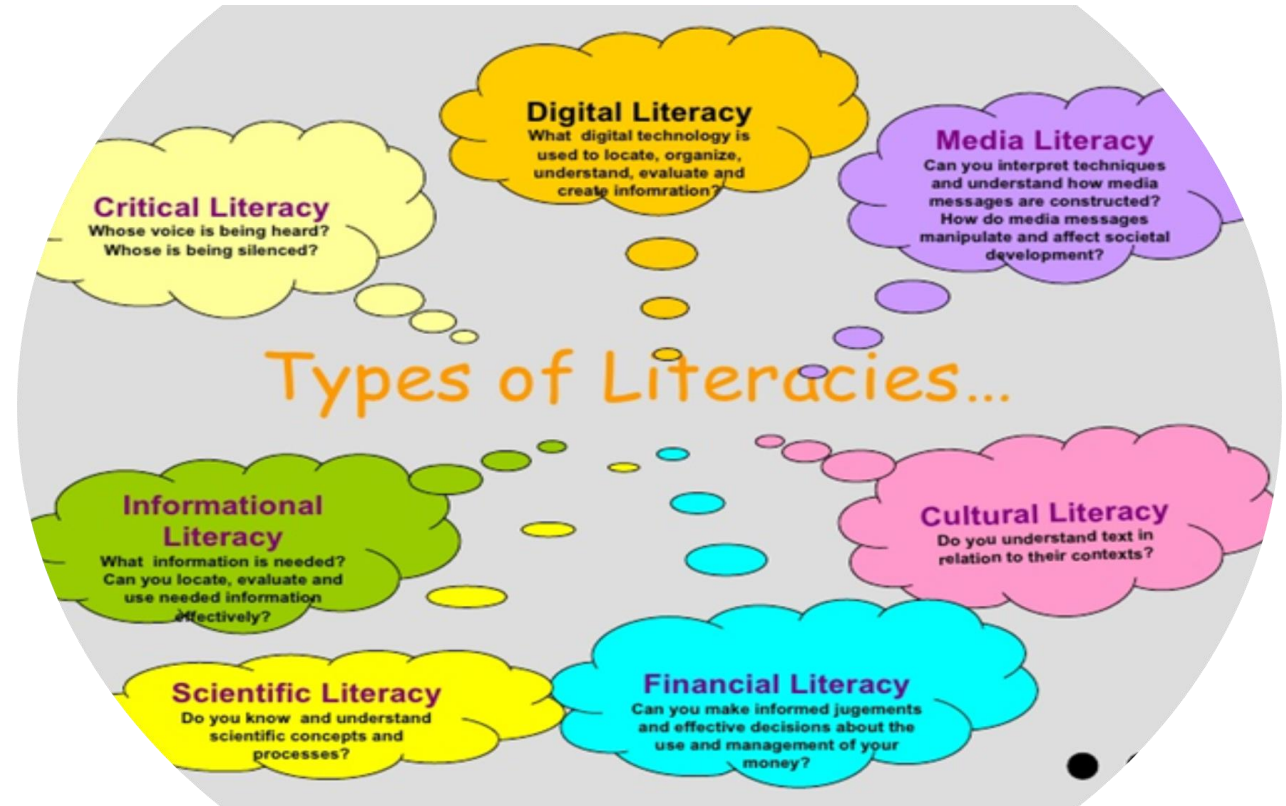


- Financial literacy
- Financial literacy is the ability to understand how money works in the world: how someone manages to earn or make it, how that person manages it, how he/she invests it (turn it into more) and how that person donates it to help others.

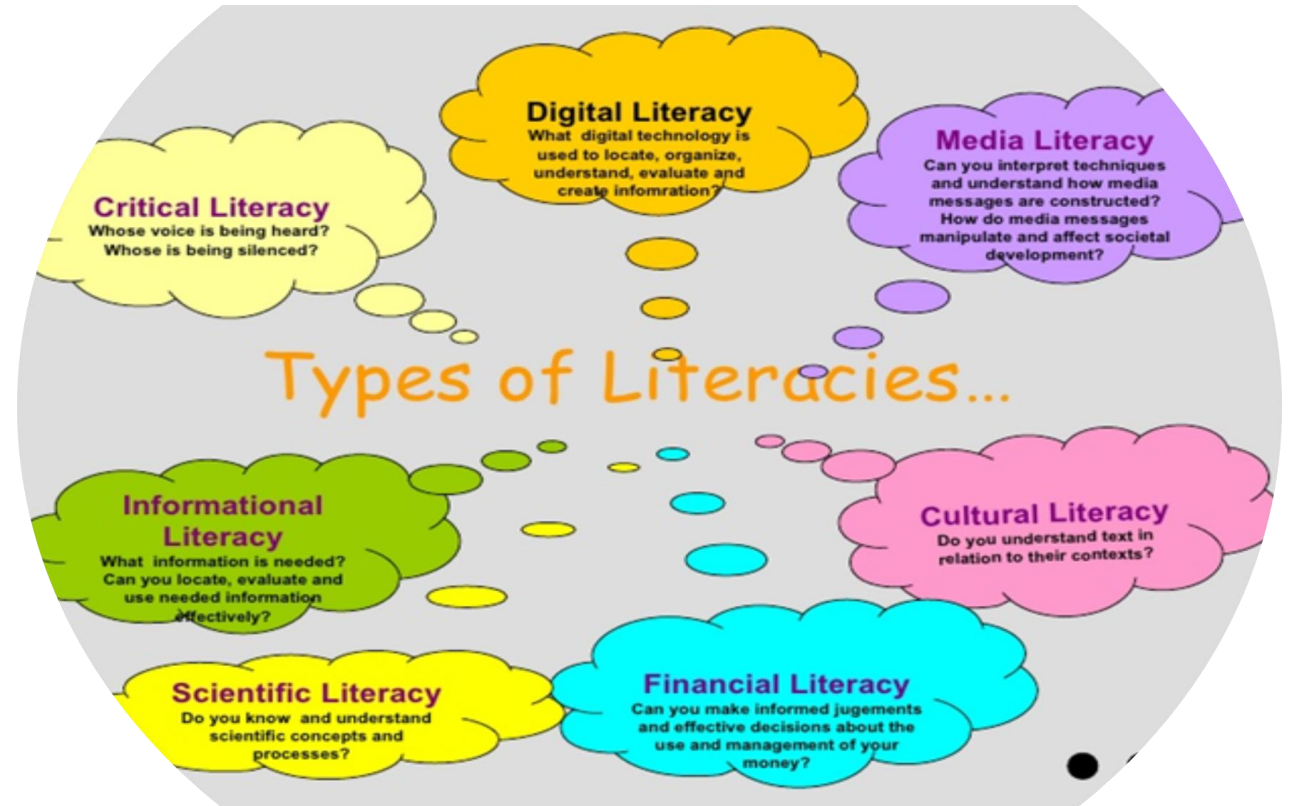


- Cultural literacy

The culturally literate person is able to talk to and understand others of that culture with fluency, to understand differing values and communicate as a global citizen.

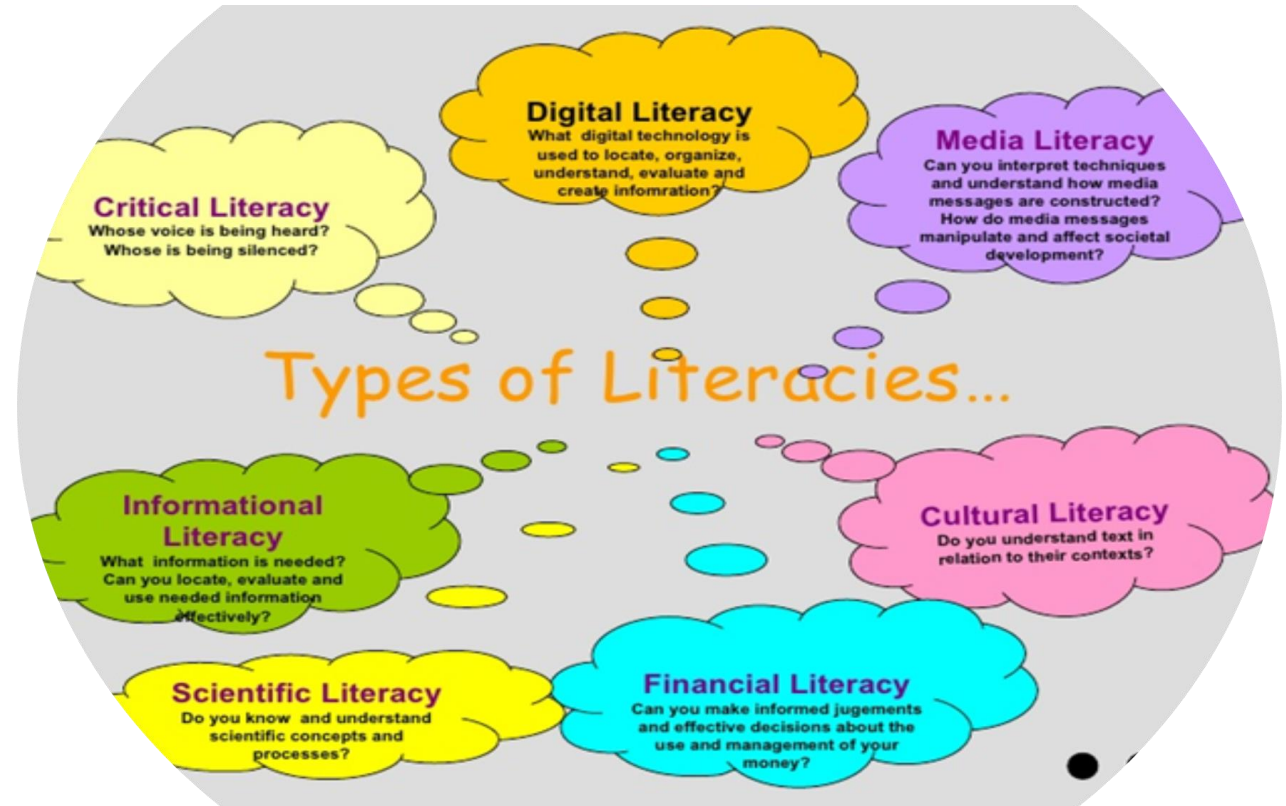


- Scientific literacy
- Scientific literacy is the knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts and processes required for personal decision making, participation in cultural affairs, and economic productivity.

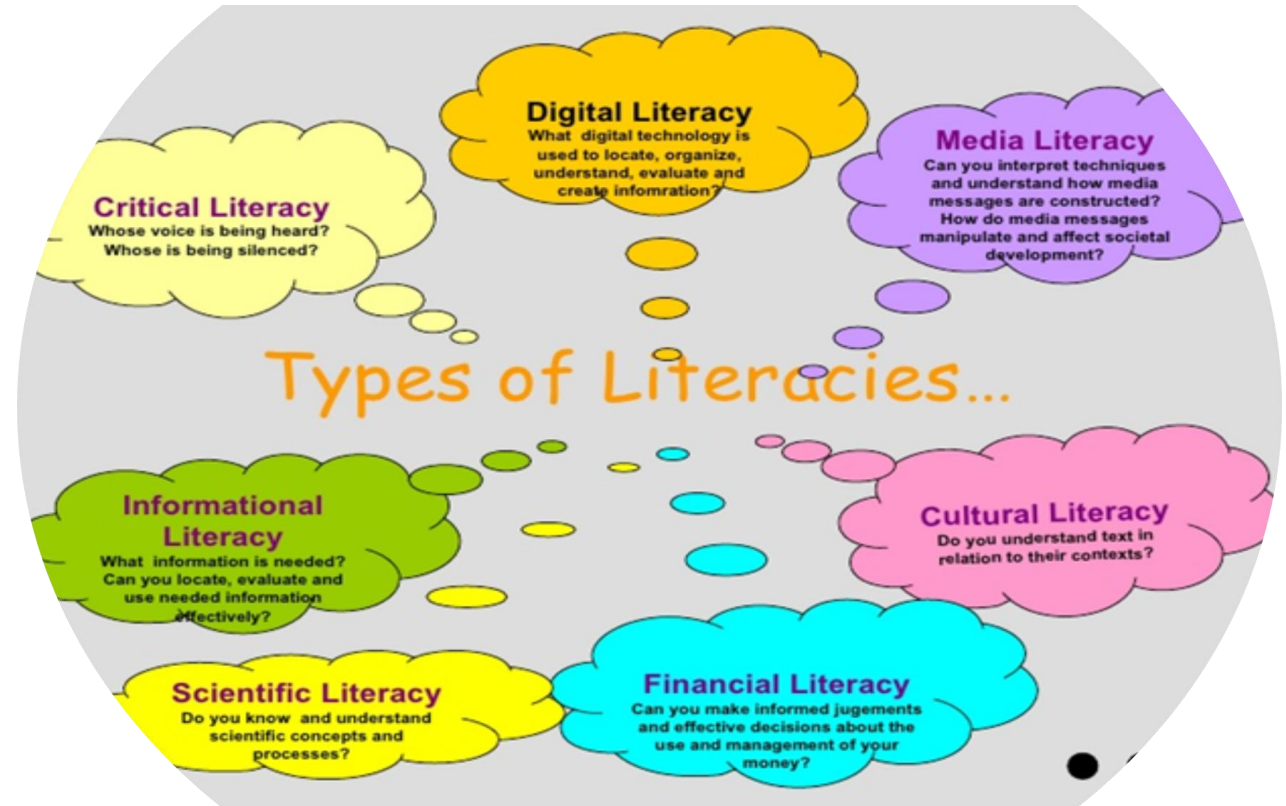


- Information literacy •

Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to "recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information."

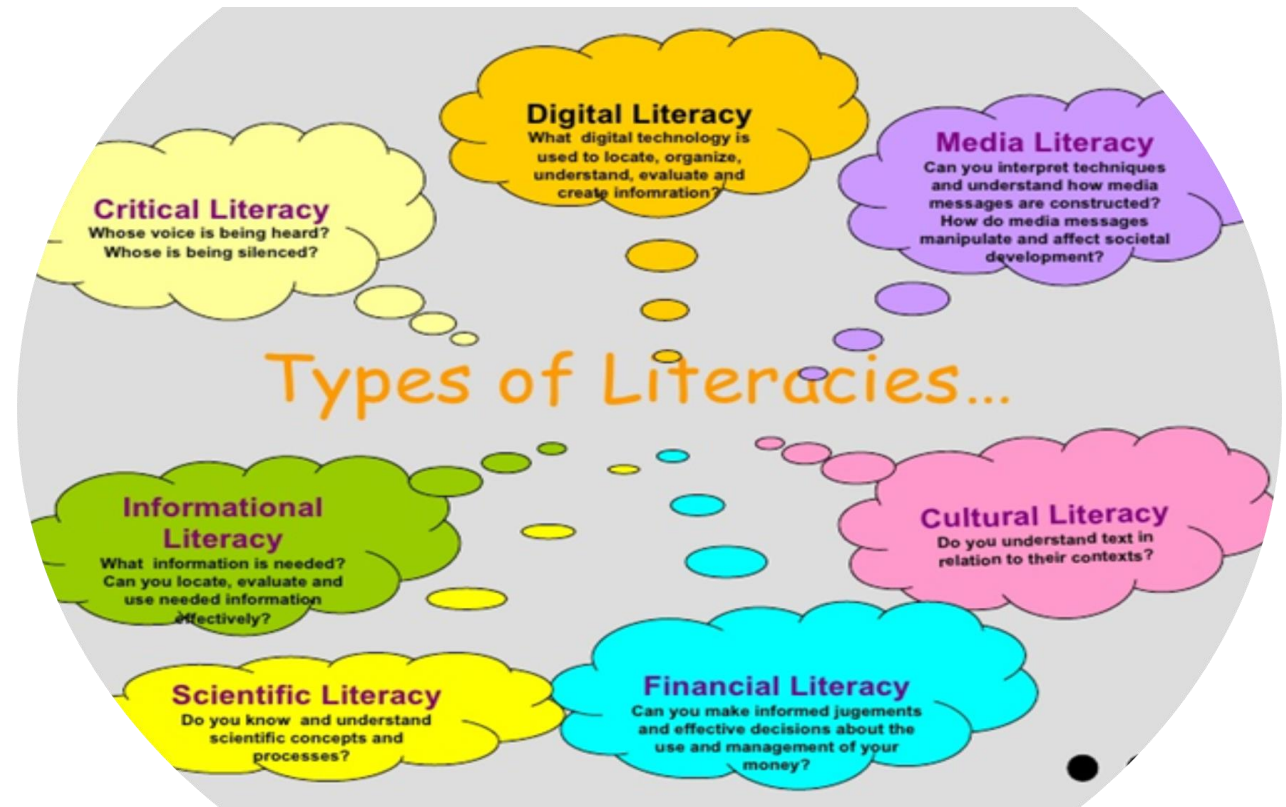


- Digital literacy •
- Digital literacy is the knowledge, skills, and behaviours used in a broad range of digital devices such as smart phones, tablets, laptops and desktop PCs, all of which are seen as networking and communication.



- Critical literacy •

Critical literacy encourages readers to actively analyse texts and offers strategies for uncovering underlying messages.





How can you become a global communicator?

- As our population expands and technology breaks down ever more barriers between us, the ability to communicate and interact with those around us becomes even more important.

- As growing citizens in a world full of possibilities, we need to learn and foster powerful literacy abilities to ensure we will experience the benefits of being able to participate fully in society and in our workplaces.

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[International Literacy Association \(ILA\)](#)

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Could God Give the Gift of Literacy in a Miraculous Way?

- Do you assume that everyone you meet is able to read?
- Many of us make that assumption. Yet in all parts of the world, there are people, even adults, who have never had the opportunity to learn to read.



A Young Woman's Hunger for the Word

In one of the biggest slums of India there lived a young woman named Arunima.* She was a faithful, devoted follower of Jesus. She never had owned a copy of the Bible. She did not even have a New Testament, nor any other portions of scripture.

Recently she was given a Bible. As you can imagine, Arunima was filled with joy! **She loved God, and she loved His Word.**

Arunima's Shameful Secret

There was a problem. Arunima had a secret. It was something she had never told anyone around her. **She could not read.** And she certainly could not write. She felt ashamed of herself because of this.

Night after night, when no one was watching her, she would hold the Bible. She opened it carefully and began to flip through the pages. She was truly hungry for the word of God!

It seemed so unfair. She watched others read their Bibles. All that she wanted was to do as they were doing. It looked so easy for them!

Asking the Lord for a Miracle

After some time, Arunima made a decision. Her faith in God was great. She called out to the Lord, asking for help. *"Lord Jesus, please give me the wisdom to read!"* She was certain He would answer her prayer. She waited in expectation.

Day by day she looked at the words in the Bible. **Slowly but surely, she began to recognize letters.**

A few months passed. With no help from anyone (except the Lord), she began to read the Word of God for herself. She was full of joy!

How Did She Do It?

Arunima had thought it was not possible. Her hunger and thirst for the Word of God made it possible.

This remarkable progress removed her shame. She had been ashamed that she could not read, and hid this from her friends and neighbours. Now she told others what Jesus had done for her. Her testimony was heard by many in her community.