Software

Core Competency: Use the computer system to perform various tasks

Element: Describe the major compoments of a computer system and their functions

Performance criteria:
- Identify types of software
  - System software
  - Application software
- Use basic software such as word processor, web browser, and calculator
- Describe the function(s) of each software used

Purpose of activity:

To introduce students to the concept of software, differentiate between system and application software, and provide hands-on experience with basic applications

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, students should be able to:
- Define software and differentiate between hardware and software
- Classify software into system software and application software
- Use basic software applications for simple tasks

Resources and materials:
- Desktop computers or laptops
- Installed software (Windows Operating System, Microsoft Word, Browser, MS Paint, calculator application)
- Projector or interactive screen (Interactive Flat Panel Display) - OPTIONAL
- Printed worksheets

Implementation guidelines:
1. Begin with a class discussion on what students already know about computers.
2. Define software as components that can be seen but cannot be touched.
3. Use visuals to differentiate between software and hardware.
4. Differentiate between system software and application software by using examples.
5. Demonstrate how to launch and use basic applications.
6. Encourage students to use the MS Word application.
7. Use the Calculator App to carry out some basic operations.

Assessment:
- Activity 1: Match each application logo to its name.
- Activity 2: Match software icons with their functions.
- Activity 3: Use MS Word to type a paragraph
- Activity 4: Use MS Paint to draw any shape(s).

Extension of activity:
- Introduce more software like spreadsheets and presentation tools.
- Explore mobile apps and compare them with computer software.

Activity 1:
Cut out the icons (refer to Activity 1 in Student Worksheets) and place them in the appropriate row to match their correct names. Use glue to stick the pictures of the icons.

Application Icon	Application Name
	Microsoft PowerPoint
	Microsoft Excel
	Microsoft Word

Activity 2:
Cut out the icons (refer to Activity 2 in Student Worksheets) and place them in the appropriate row to match their correct names. Use glue to stick the pictures of the icons.

Activity 3:
Use MS Paint to draw different shape(s).
- Open Microsoft Paint and use different shapes to draw a robot (Refer to Activity 3 in Student Worksheets).

Activity 4: Use MS Word to type a paragraph.

Preparation:

- Ensure that each computer has common software like Google Chrome, MS Word, MS Paint and Calculator App which will be necessary for this activity.
- Prepare a worksheet with a list of tasks and software icons.

Steps:

1. Divide the class into small groups/pairs.
2. Hand out the worksheet that includes tasks such as:
   a. Launch a Microsoft Word document and type your name.
   b. Open a browser and type https://web.mie.ac.mu/ in the address bar.
   c. Use the calculator to solve 189 + 15.