Foundation Programme in Literacy, Numeracy and Skills

DIGITAL LITERACY

Teacher's Guide: GRADE 8 - Lesson 3

Distinguish between hardware and software

Core Competency:
Use the computer system to perform various tasks.

Element:
Describe the major components of the computer system and their functions.

Performance Criteria:
- Identify examples of hardware and software.
- Describe the difference between hardware and software.

Purpose of Activity:
To help learners understand the basic difference between hardware and software with simple examples.

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this lesson, students should be able to:
- Identify examples of hardware and software
- Group items under the classification of hardware and software
- Distinguish between hardware and software

Resources and Materials:
- Flashcards with examples. (e.g., mouse, keyboard, MS Word, MS Excel, game app)
- Two large labels titled 'Hardware' and 'Software'.
- Double-sided tape.

Implementation Guidelines:
1. Begin with a recap on hardware and software.
2. Describe that hardware is the physical part of the computer.
3. Describe that software consists of programs that tell a computer what to do.

Assessment:

- Activity 1: Label the items.
- Activity 2: Place each item under the correct category.

Instructions:

- Use the set of images (representing a mix of hardware and software items) provided below.
- Cut the images and distribute them to the students.
- Provide one student with one image.
- Divide the whiteboard into two equal halves.
- Label one side as 'Hardware' and the other side as 'Software'. (cut the labels provided)
- Ask students with the image to come and place it under the correct category: Hardware, or Software.
- Use the double-sided tape to stick the image on the board.
- Ask students why they placed each item in a particular category.

Extension of Activity:

- Ask students to draw one hardware and one software.
- Ask students to list any software they use at home (e.g., games, learning apps)