



ISTE Seal Review Findings Report

TestOut Digital
Literacy Pro

2023



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT	3
About ISTE	3
ISTE Seal	3
RESOURCE DESCRIPTION	4
What is TestOut?	4
How is TestOut Implemented?	4
ISTE SEAL REVIEW	5
Review Methodology	5
Scope of Review	5
Review Findings	6
CONCLUSION	11

ABOUT

ABOUT ISTE

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is home to a community of global educators and solution providers who are passionate about using technology to revolutionize learning. Our vision is to create a bold community where education innovators are supported in reimagining and redesigning learning with a focus on using technology to create transformational and equitable experiences for learners. We're making this vision a reality by delivering practical guidance, evidence-based professional learning, virtual networks, thought-provoking events and the ISTE Standards.

ISTE SEAL

The ISTE Seal serves as a mark of high-quality product design for solutions that enable and guide high-quality learning. By choosing to demonstrate their commitment to supporting best practices for teaching and learning, these products show a purposeful and meaningful dedication to practical usability, digital pedagogical implementation, and the ISTE Standards. With a focus on user experience, product usability, and the most essential elements of instructional technology today, the ISTE Seal provides a set of criteria and simple indicators to guide educators, students, and technology directors toward the very best products on the market.

ISTE awards a seal only after an extensive analysis conducted by trained ISTE reviewers that ensures a product meets all critical elements under specific review criteria.

By earning an ISTE Seal, ISTE verifies that this product:

- Promotes critical technology skills.
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways.
- Incorporates digital pedagogy and the learning sciences.
- Addresses key elements of tech usability, user experience and user interface.
- Aligns to ISTE Standards in specific ways.

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS *TestOut*?

TestOut is a courseware platform designed to empower teachers in guiding their students through interactive experiences with technology. With its comprehensive features, TestOut helps educators increase their students' confidence in navigating the digital world and equips them with the necessary skills for real-life applications. Through engaging videos and relevant digital concepts, students can grasp complex topics.

TestOut also offers teaching aids to support instructors in delivering interactive lessons. By providing hands-on application opportunities, students can actively practice and apply their newfound skills. The platform incorporates auto grading and analytics, enabling teachers to assess students' progress efficiently and provide personalized feedback.

HOW IS *TestOut* IMPLEMENTED?

To effectively implement TestOut by CompTIA, follow these guidelines for a comprehensive approach. First, evaluate the desired learning goals and objectives in order to align the program accordingly. Obtain the necessary licenses or subscriptions from CompTIA or authorized resellers. Integrate the TestOut Digital Literacy Pro modules into the curriculum, either as a dedicated course or by incorporating them into existing courses.

Educate instructors on how to utilize the platform's features and share best practices. Encourage student engagement by providing hands-on activities and simulations, enabling them to apply their knowledge practically. Keep track of student progress and assess their understanding using TestOut's assessment tools and reporting capabilities. Promote exploration beyond the program by offering additional resources for further learning. By following these guidelines, you can successfully implement CompTIA's TestOut Digital Literacy Pro, equipping learners with essential digital literacy skills and fostering their confidence in using technology for real-world applications.



ISTE SEAL REVIEW

Product: TestOut Digital Literacy Pro

Product Type: Curriculum

Organization: CompTIA

Date of Award: June 2023

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal reviews are conducted by a distinguished panel of experts in education, instruction and technology. These experts utilize the most up-to-date data provided by the organization to conduct thorough evaluations of each solution. The evaluations focus on assessing the solution's performance in addressing specific elements outlined in the technical and pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards.

To complete their rigorous evaluations, the reviewers utilize a comprehensive rating system, categorizing each solution as either "meets expectations" or "does not meet expectations." This assessment covers both the required and optional "Look Fors" outlined in the application. To ensure the validity and reliability of their results, the reviewers regularly engage in calibrations. Final review findings are then analyzed and combined, providing an overall score for alignment with each indicator.

At ISTE, we take great pride in our unwavering commitment to delivering results that schools and districts can have full confidence in. To be deemed education-ready learning solutions, products must meet the high standards in learning sciences, user experience and interface, accessibility, and content quality.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

TestOut was reviewed against the technical, pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards to determine whether **the solution is education-ready**. ISTE reviewers examined all evidence provided by the organization and interacted directly with the product.



REVIEW FINDINGS

ISTE STANDARDS: The ISTE Standards provide the competencies for learning, teaching, and leading in the digital age, providing a comprehensive roadmap for the effective use of technology in schools worldwide. Grounded in learning science research and based on practitioner experience, the ISTE Standards ensure that using technology for learning can create high-impact, sustainable, scalable, and equitable learning experiences for all learners.

Empowered Learner 1.1.d

Understand the fundamental concepts of technology operations, demonstrate the ability to choose, use and troubleshoot current technologies and are able to transfer their knowledge to explore emerging technologies.

Digital Citizen 1.2.c

Demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the rights and obligations of using and sharing intellectual property.

Digital Citizen 1.2.d

Manage their personal data to maintain digital privacy and security and are aware of data-collection technology used to track their navigation online.

Knowledge Constructor 1.3.a

Plan and employ effective research strategies to locate information and other resources for their intellectual or creative pursuits.

FEEDBACK

OUTCOME

- Labs provide opportunities for students to apply what they learned in simulations with guided practice.
- Content focused on topics such as how to conduct academic research, properly cite sources, and recognize ways to evaluate the credibility and accuracy of information.






<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students learn concepts such as how to use privacy settings and search engines and understand personally identifiable information (PII), digital footprints, and sharing information. • Lessons include topics such as using advanced search operations, tools to improve results, and image tools to filter results by size, file type, and license type. 	
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DIMENSION 1: USER INTERFACE AND AGENCY



Definition: The design of the product interface and user experience helps teachers quickly and reliably achieve instructional goals. This dimension includes features related to interface design, learnability, navigation, maximizing time on task, control over actions, and general usability.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buttons appropriately sized with clear headings and prominent placement. • Minor features are hidden but easily accessible in the three-dot menu. • Seamless integration with most learning management systems. • Extensive help features, including contacting support and searchable knowledge base to find answers to specific questions. 	

DIMENSION 2: LEARNING DESIGN

Definition: The product has features that exhibit and promote design and customization of learning episodes in ways that align with research-based best practices, including those rooted in the learning sciences.




FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content types such as videos, animations, images, and narration are presented in short sections and provide varied ways of engaging with the subject matter. • Narration is well-timed to the videos, and additional tools are available to support text comprehension. • Content provides concrete examples and non-examples to help students internalize an understanding of topics such as netiquette and data safety. 	
<p>DIMENSION 3: DIGITAL PEDAGOGY</p> <p>Definition: The product is designed to support the development of digital age learning skills, capacities and knowledge. This dimension focuses on how technology can help students and teachers experience the best possible learning experiences, including the social and learning affordances that digital educational products uniquely offer.</p>	
FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects allow students to define problems and determine specific steps in a process like planning and executing a survey and analyzing data. • Projects provide opportunities for students to design solutions through collaboration, feedback, and the design process. • Curriculum encourages the development of digital identity through lessons focused on digital citizenship, conducting research, and managing privacy settings. 	




DIMENSION 4: INCLUSIVITY

Definition: The product helps teachers provide learning experiences that are relevant to students of many cultures, backgrounds, and abilities, and support learner motivation and agency in the learning process. The product meets current guidelines around accessibility, and supports a positive classroom culture.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse representation across different careers in images and voices in narration. • Variety of accessibility options, including closed captions, speed and audio control, and interactive scripts. 	

DIMENSION 5: ASSESSMENT AND DATA

Definition: The product uses formative assessments – learning experiences that help make visible what students know and don’t yet know – to generate data that inform teachers about student knowledge and skill gaps, and provide students assessment feedback that is specific, actionable, and constructive. As such, it guides teachers’ instructional decisions and students’ learning journeys.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various assessment types, including question variety, code visualizers, and simulation labs. • Quizzes provide feedback, including answers and criteria for correct answers. • Feedback provided to students immediately, providing context and additional resources as needed. 	



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performance results are immediately available to educators and viewed in reports which can be filtered according to need. | |
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CONCLUSION

TestOut's Digital Literacy Pro provides a comprehensive introduction to the essential components of digital literacy ranging from basics such as keyboarding to hardware, software, networking, mobile devices, and even career pathways. The chapters delve into these topics in depth using video, text, and graphics. Some modules also offer hands-on activities. In addition to instruction, the course provides opportunities for reflection and formative assessment to help students and facilitators evaluate progress.

The building blocks of the learning experience on this online platform are polished and highly professional. The videos, graphics, and text are engaging and appropriate for the target audience of younger students. Features such as searchable scripts for the videos, effective use of color to highlight important components, and careful selection of text size make it easily accessible to a diverse audience. The curriculum is designed to be used by teachers who can adapt the materials to the needs of their classes, but students could also take a self-guided approach.

Overall the curriculum is well designed, highly professional in approach, easy to navigate, and uses multi-media resources creatively and effectively.