

Gloucester County Library System

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INTERNET BASICS

Computer Classes



Check the GCLS online calendar for the schedule of Computer Classes www.gcls.org

• Basic Computer Skills:

• Required for all other computer classes. Learn how to use the mouse, open and close programs, select items and text.

• Internet Basics:

• Learn how to use the Internet, click links, navigate sites and print useful information.

• Email Basics:

• Learn about email, create your own email address and get some valuable practice.

• Software Basics:

 Overview of common office software such as Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Computer Guides



Basic Computer Guide

Quick Reference Guides:





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Computer Basics

Microsoft Internet Explorer 7

Microsoft Windows Vista

Microsoft Windows XP

Adobe Acrobat 8

Microsoft word 2003

Microsoft office 2007

Microsoft Publisher 2007

Microsoft Excel 2007

Microsoft Power Point 2007

Class Objectives

- Introduce you to the Internet with particular attention to the world wide web (www).
- Gain a basic understanding of the Internet and the world wide web (www) function and what is available on them.
- Become familiar with the Internet Explorer browser.
- Learn how to do a simple search.





Internet

What is the Internet?

- A global collection of computers and computer networks that exchange information.
- A computer network is a group of computers that have been connected so they can communicate with each other; they can send messages and share information in the form of computer files.

How Information Travels On The Internet

- When you receive information from another computer on the Internet you are downloading;
- when you send information you are uploading.
- Information travels over phone lines and high-speed data lines. The information is broken down into smaller pieces, called packets.

What the Internet Offers



Electronic Mail (E-Mail)

Exchanging e-mail is the most popular feature on the Internet. E-Mail is the transmission of messages electronically. You can exchange messages with people around the world. E-mail is fast, easy, free, and saves paper.



Information

The Internet gives you access to information on almost any subject imaginable: medical information, news, government documents, famous speeches, recipes, job listings, hobbies, etc.



Computer Programs

Thousands of computer programs are available for downloading. These programs include word processors, spreadsheets, games, screensavers, etc.

Entertainment



The Internet also allows you to play games online, watch movies, listen to music and radio broadcasts, etc.

Discussion Groups & Chat Rooms



You can also join discussion groups or newsgroups or chat rooms on the Internet to meet people around the world with similar interests. You can ask questions, discuss issues, and read interesting stories. (Discussion Groups and News Groups are like bulletin boards – messages are posted and someone can view it and send a reply at a later date. Chat Rooms provide for communication in real time – it's like talking on the telephone except your using a keyboard to input your words.)

Online Shopping



You can even order goods and services on the Internet. You can buy books, computer programs, flowers, music CDs, stocks, and more.

You need specific equipment and programs to connect to the Internet.



Computer

Computer: You can use any type of computer, such as an IBM compatible or Macintosh computer, to connect to the Internet.



Modem

You need a modem to connect to the Internet. A modem lets computers exchange information through telephone lines.

56Kbps modem, Cable, and Wi-Fi





Programs: You need communication software to control the modem and you need a browser to use the Internet.

Browser



Internet Service Provider: An ISP is a company that gives you access to the Internet for a fee. Many providers offer you a certain number of hours per day or month for a set fee. Some providers offer unlimited access to the Internet for a set fee. Comcast and Verizon are examples. Some ISPs, also known as Online Services, provide access to information and services that are only available to their subscribers. AOL is an example of an Online Service.

Internet Service Provider



Buying a computer and Internet service can be expensive. However, the Gloucester County Library provides free public access to the Internet at all branch libraries. This service is available to anyone who has a GCLS library card.



World Wide Web

What is the World Wide Web?

- The WWW is the most popular part of the Internet.
- It consists of a huge collection of files stored on computers around the world.
- It can include colors, graphic images, sound and video clips, and animation.

Web Pages

- A Web page is a file on the Web.
- A Web site is a collection of Web pages maintained by a college, government agency, company or individual.
- A Web page is created by using a computer language called Hypertext Markup Language (HTML).
- HTML is a set of codes used to format Web pages and create links

Web Addresses



- Each Web page has a unique address called the Uniform Resource Locator (URL).
- The URL tells the computer how and where to look for a document. Example: http://www.cnn.com/world/index.html
- Hypertext links are attached to Web addresses.
 In this case we are looking at a Web address so we are using http which stands for hypertext transfer protocol.

Web Suffixes

- COM COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES
- EDU HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
- **NET -** NETWORK OPERATIONS
- ORG ORGANIZATIONS, USUALLY NONPROFIT
- MIL MILITARY NETWORKS
- GOV GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Web Browsers

- In order to view Web pages you need a Web browser.
- A Web browser is a software program that lets you view and explore information on the Web.
- Firefox



Safari



Chrome



Microsoft Internet Explorer





Searching the Web



Examples of Web Search Engines

There are many free services you can use to find information on the Web. Search engines constantly visit Web sites in order to catalog Web pages

- Examples of Web Search Engines
- Google.com
- Ask.com
- Yahoo.com
- TripleMe.com
- Shopzilla.com

Search Directories

Directories are created by humans who assign submitted sites to an appropriate category or categories. Yahoo is an example of a

Search Directory. You can browse through categories, such as arts or sports, to find information that interests you or you can search for a specific word or topic.

Limitations of Internet Research

- Information Available
- Amount of Time
- Quality of Information
- There are limitations in using the Internet as a research tool. People often have the misconception that the Internet contains every bit of knowledge... every piece of information ever written, and that all they have to do is type in their subject and they'll be able to pull up exactly what they need.
- The Internet doesn't contain every piece of information ever written and probably never will. There have been millions if not billions of books and articles published over time and only a fraction of the information contained within them is on the Internet. The information doesn't magically appear, someone has to post it on the Internet.

- Searching for information on the Internet often takes a great deal of time if you don't know a specific site that contains the information you need. Depending on your subject and which search engine you use, you may pull up several thousand web pages. You may look through all of the pages, which could take hours, and even then you may not find exactly what you're looking for. On the other hand, you can sometimes find a great site with the information you need in only a few minutes.
- Keep in mind that since no one controls the Internet, anyone can post information on it. Some of that information may be useful and some of it may be garbage and useless as a source for research.

Evaluating Web Sites

Remember it's important to evaluate sites because while there are many very good sites there are also many sites that are not credible sources of information. It's a good idea to check the site's source and when it was last updated.

Open Microsoft Internet Explorer

Microsoft Internet Explorer



Common Toolbar Buttons

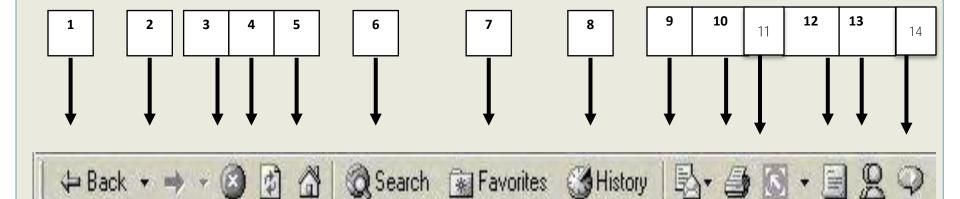
 The first thing you should see is the desktop with icons on it.

- Look for the Internet Explorer icon.
- Double click on that icon.



- Back Takes you to the last viewed screen.
- Forward Returns you to the last page viewed before using the Back button.
- Stop Stops the browser from accessing a link.
- Refresh Updates the page you are currently viewing if the content has changed.
- Home Brings you to the Home Page that you can choose and set in your browser

The Microsoft Internet Explorer toolbar consists of buttons that are shortcuts for menu commands. They make browsing faster and easier.



- <u>1</u> Back. Lets you return to pages you've viewed, beginning with the most recent. Rightclick the Back button and select from a list of recently visited sites
- **2 Forward.** Lets you move forward through pages you've viewed using the *Back* button. Right-click the *Forward* button and select from a list of recently visited sites.
- <u>3 Stop.</u> Halts the process of downloading a Web page. Click this if you want to stop downloading a page for any reason for example, if you're having trouble downloading it or if you don't want to wait for it to download. Then try downloading it again or browse elsewhere.
- <u>4</u> Refresh. Updates any Web page stored in your disk cache with the latest content. When you return to a page that you've visited, your browser displays the file stored in your disk cache, rather than the current page on the World Wide Web. If a web page doesn't come up the whole way or is taking abnormally long to load, try the Refresh or Reload button sometimes this will load the page better.

- <u>5</u> Home. Returns you to your home page. You can designate any Web page as your home page.
- **6 Search.** Displays a choice of popular Internet search engines in the left pane. Your search results appear in the left pane, too. When you click a link, the page appears in the right pane, so you don't lose sight of your search results.
- **7** Favorites. Displays a list of the sites you have marked. Click any item in the list to jump to it.
- 8 History. Shows a list of Web sites you've visited.
- <u>9 Mail.</u> Connects you to the Microsoft Outlook Express messaging and collaboration client so you can read e-mail and newsgroup messages.

- 10 Print. Prints the page you're viewing. This is one way to save information from the Internet so that you don't have to reconnect to view it again. You can even print the URL associated with each hyperlink, making it easy to navigate to the site later.
- 11 Edit. Opens a file in the Microsoft Word word processor that contains the HTML code for the page you're viewing so you can see and even edit it.
- <u>12</u> Discussion. Access a discussion server.
- <u>13</u> Messenger. Opens Windows Messenger.
- 14 Media. Displays a list of audio and video media options using Real Player or the Windows Media Player.

Challenge

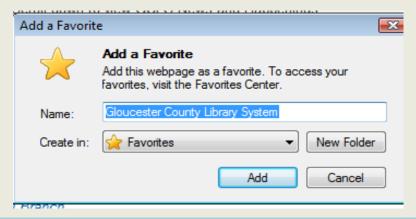
- Log onto Internet
- Search the word Dog on the web
- Now click on images.
- Then video, Maps, News, Shopping.

Great Job!



Favorites

- Favorites Sites that you like to visit frequently can be added to this list so you
 don't have to type in the address. You can add, delete and organize your
 Favorites.
- To add the current Web page as a Favorite, click on
 Favorites and then Add. To choose the folder where
 you want to store this listing, click on Create in and
 choose the folder you want. At this point, you also have the option to create a new
 folder.



Favorites

- To delete a Favorite, simply right click on the item and choose Delete. Or, you can choose Organize Favorites, select the desired item, and click on the Delete button.
- To move a Favorite to another folder, click on Organize Favorites, select the desired item, and click on Move to Folder. In the pop-up window, select the folder where you would like to store this listing.

Moving Around on the Web

Move your mouse pointer around the screen until you see the arrow turn into a white hand. Whenever you see that hand, it means that the pointer is on top of a hyperlink. Those are links to other pages on our Web site or to other Web sites. Go ahead and click on any of those links. You have now gone to another page.

- **Back button** on the toolbar. You have now gone back to the previous web page. Now click on the
- Forward button. You've gone forward to the page you were just at.
 Now click on the
- Home button. You have now returned to your Home Page.

Need More Practice?

Try Mousercise at home...

http://www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/mousercise.htm

Challenge

Log on to any website

On left click on icon



Click on add to favorites

Search Directories

Ask

http://www.ask.com

Ask is different from other search directories because it allows you to ask questions using natural language, rather than special searching techniques.

ipl2

http://www.ipl.org

ipl2 is one of the best directories available. It provides links to the best web sites on a wide variety of topics. Librarians maintain it.

Yahoo

http://www.yahoo.com

Yahoo is one of the most popular search directories. Yahoo offers features such as search sites for different categories, such as restaurants, and for specific cities and regions.

Meta Search Engines

Dogpile

http://www.dogpile.com

Dogpile searches 20+ search engines and retrieves results separately and it offers custom search options.

Mamma

http://www.mamma.com

Mamma retrieves results in relevancy ranked order. It also has a power search that offers a user-friendly template for building a query.

Search Engines

AltaVista

http://www.altavista.com

AltaVista is one of the largest search engines on the Web in terms of pages indexed. It is available in many other languages, including Spanish, French, and Chinese.

Excite

http://www.excite.com

Excite offers many services in addition to a search engine, including free e-mail, shopping links, news, and daily horoscopes.

Google

http://www.google.com

Google has gained widespread praise for providing relevant results because the search engine ranks Web sites based on popularity.

Searching with Google

- Open the Google site (www.google.com)
- Keyword Searches
- Try the most obvious keyword first.
 Use words likely to appear on a site with the information you want.
 Make keywords as specific as possible.



- Browser--Contains the basic software you need in order to find, retrieve, view, and send information over the Internet.
- Download--To copy data from a remote computer to a local computer.
- Upload—To send data from a local computer to a remote computer.
- **E-mail** E-mail (electronic mail) is the exchange of computer-stored messages by telecommunication. E-mail can be distributed to lists of people as well as to individuals. However, you can also send non-text files, such as graphic images and sound files, as attachments sent in binary streams.
- Filter Software that allows targeted sites to be blocked from view. Example: X-Stop, AOL@School
- Home Page The beginning "page" of any site.

- HTML (HyperText Markup Language) The coding language used to create documents for use on the World Wide Web. There are three-letter suffixes used in coding that help to identify the type location one is viewing
- HTTP (HyperText Transport Protocol) the set of rules for exchanging files (text, graphic images, sound, video, and other multimedia files) on the World Wide Web.
 Relative to the TCP/IP suite of protocols (which are the basis for information exchange on the Internet), HTTP is an application protocol.
- Hypertext Generally any text that contains "links" to other text
- **Internet** A global "network of networks" connecting millions of computers. Worldwide
- ISP (Internet Service Provider) A company that provides access to the
 Internet. For a monthly fee, the service provider gives you a software
 package, username, password and access phone number. Equipped with a
 modem, you can then log on to the Internet and browse the World Wide Web,
 and send and receive e-mail.

- Link In hypertext systems, such as the World Wide Web, a link is a
 reference to another document. Such links are sometimes called hot links
 because they take you to other documents when you click on them
- Meta-Search Engine A search engine that submits your search to several search engines at once.
- Modem (Acronym for Modulator-Demodulator) A device or program that
 enables a computer to transmit data over telephone lines. Computer
 Information is stored digitally, whereas information transmitted over telephone
 lines is transmitted in the form of analog waves. A modem converts between
 these two
- Search Engine A web server that collects data from other web servers and puts it into a
 database (much like an index), it provides links to pages that contain the object of your
 search, forms.

- TCP/IP -- TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) is the basic communication language or protocol of the Internet. It can also be used as a communications protocol in a private network (either an intranet or an extranet). When you are set up with direct access to the Internet, your computer is provided with a copy of the TCP/IP program just as every other computer that you may send messages to or get information from also has a copy of TCP/IP.
- URL (Uniform Resource Locator) The Internet address. The prefix of a URL indicates which area of the Internet will be accessed. URLs look differently depending on the Internet resource you are seeking.
- **WWW (World Wide Web)** A technical definition of the World Wide Web is: all the resources and users on the Internet that are using the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP).

Try These Internet Sites – Just for Fun!

www.amazon.com A huge online bookstore and much more!

www.weather.com
 From the TV Weather Channel

www.bhg.comFrom Better Homes and Gardens magazine

www.mapquest.com Maps and driving directions for the U.S. and

Canada

www.espn.com Entertainment and Sports Programming Network

www.pricegrabber.com
 Comparison shopping

www.allrecipes.comSearch for recipes

Challange

Log online go to

http://www.barnesandnoble.com\

Type **John Grisham** in the keyword search

Ok now go to top right corner search window and enter

http://www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/

Type **John Grisham** in the keyword search

Some Common Ouestions and Answers

WHO INVENTED THE INTERNET?

1960 AT&T introduces the dataphone and the first known MODEM.

Leonard Kleinrock publishes his first paper entitled "Information Flow in Large Communication Nets" is published May 31, 1961.

Questions and Answers

Question:

How to find information on the Internet.

Answer:

Most information is found on the Internet by utilizing a search engines. A search engine is a web service that uses web robots to query millions of pages on the Internet and creates an index of those web pages. Users can then use these services to quickly and easily find the information they may be looking for.

Question:

Is it possible to crash or shutdown the entire Internet?

Answer:

No. The Internet as a whole is a collection of multiple different networks controlled and maintained by multiple people, businesses, and governments and has been designed to be redundant, which means even if one portion of the network goes down users should still be able to get to their destination in most cases.

Self-Paced Learning

These interactive tutorials will help you practice the skills you learn in Computer Classes @ GCLS or explore other resources on your own!

Computer Basics

Learn about the different types of computers, the parts of the computer and how computers work.

BBC Absolute Beginners Guide to Computers

Internet Basics

Learn how to get connected, use a web browser, and navigate webpages.

GCF LearnFree Internet 101 Tutorial

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.
THEY HAVE ANSWERS.

HTTP://WWW.COMPUTERHOPE.COM /WEBQA.HTM

Mouse Basics

How to hold, move, and click a mouse.

Mouserobics
Mousercise
Games for Mouse Practice

Keyboarding Basics

Learn the layout of the keyboard and practice typing.

TypeOnline
Nimble Fingers
Power Typing
About the Keyboard



Thank You! We hope this Class was helpful

Please fill out a survey to help us improve our computer classes





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Robert M. Damminger

