



# Middle Years Focus on IT

*Integrating ICT into your child's future*

## What is MyFIT?

Middle Years Focus on IT (MyFIT) is a nationally-recognized program that enhances digital literacy and ICT skills amongst students in grades 6-9.

The program is designed to expand the understanding that middle school students have of technology and help them build the skills they will need for the future.

As part of ICTC's youth and education initiative, MyFIT offers students unique learning experiences that help develop their leadership, interpersonal, technical and even business skills.

## Why is ICT important?

Information and communications technologies (ICT) is a field that combines information technology, digital communications and business. ICT is widely being adopted across every industry in Canada.

From healthcare to energy, from manufacturing to agriculture, from finance to transportation, the demand for a highly skilled ICT and digital workforce is increasing.

The MyFIT program was developed in response to this growing demand and encourages students of all ages to learn skills that are considered valuable to tomorrow's careers.

## Why Middle School?

It's never too soon for your child to start exploring their interests and considering possible career paths.

MyFIT offers practical, hands-on learning experiences that are age appropriate and promotes skills like creative and strategic thinking, team work, critical thinking, risk taking, etc.

Whichever direction your child takes, introducing them to ICT during the middle school years is an effective way to help them prepare for a brighter future full of real possibilities.

## Role of Parents

There is ample research to suggest that children and youth are more likely to succeed if their families play an active role in their education.

MyFIT encourages parents and family members to engage with their children and learn about their interests, current education and dreams for the future.

## Beyond Middle School...

MyFIT is flexible and can be a standalone program or create a learning pathway into secondary schools delivering the Focus on IT (FIT) program. The FIT program helps students in grades 9-12 understand the importance of building digital and ICT skills for their future careers.

To pursue ICT in secondary school:

- 1 Discuss with your child and their teacher about what subjects your child should focus on to prepare for secondary school studies in ICT.
- 2 Research what secondary schools in your area offer ICT specific streams or have a good range of ICT-related courses.
- 3 Enroll in ICT courses. When your child graduates from secondary school, they'll be prepared to enter a college or university program in an ICT related field.

## Become an Advocate

Help spread the word about Middle Years Focus on IT by forwarding MyFIT handouts to potential MyFIT students, educators and parents.