Teaching Information Literacy to Generation Z

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Topics

• Generation Z - information behaviour and skills.

• Activities and experiences of the NLE, aimed at developing information literacy of young information users.
GENERATION Z

BORN 1995-2009

ZEES
GLOBAL GEN

GEN Z
DIGITAL INTEGRATORS
COTTON WOOL KIDS

UPAGERS
THE ZEDS
TEENS

TWEENS

http://uspostalsolutions.com
Members of Generation Z

- ... are electronic **multitaskers**
- ... prefer to be **interactive**
- ... are **non-linear thinkers**
- ... are **digital and visual** learners
- ... tend to be more comfortable **constructing their knowledge** than being instructed
Generation Z and information

- Overreliance on Google
- Shallow and superficial searching
- They rate convenience over quality. They want to get information fast.
- Information is freely available on the Internet.
- Their interaction with Google makes them feel self-sufficient, smart and powerful.
Research does not need to begin in a library

http://ksenia-cheinman.tumblr.com
Information literacy skills of students

Students may have DIFFICULTIES in:

• defining the topic;
• modifying their initial search;
• locating appropriate information sources;
• using retrieval techniques;
• determining the relevance of information;
Information literacy skills (IL) of students

Students may have DIFFICULTIES in:

• evaluating quality of information;
• synthesizing information from different sources to create a paper;
• using the resources in their research work;
• citing and making a bibliography.
How can teacher-librarians help youths to become MORE information literate and at the same time promote library services and themselves?
Collaboration with education sector

- The national curricula of Estonia
  - Basic education (grades 1-9)
  - Upper secondary education (Forms 10-12)

- Teachers
- School librarians
Integrating IL skills into the curricula

- Programme „Information sources and retrieval“
  - to be integrated into the process for completing a practical work in grade 8
- Programme „Research resources“
  - to be integrated into the process for completing a research paper or the subject „Basics of research“
Course related IL training sessions

- Course related training sessions in the following subjects, as
  - Estonian language and literature
  - history
  - economics
  - English or German (literature, history, culture)
  - music
  - art etc.
Components of information literacy

https://www.youtube.com/
Seminole State Library
Topics

- Searching Google effectively.
- Collections and services of the NLE.
- Electronic catalogue, databases and services.
- Comparing the Internet information sources with those of the library, pointing out the advantages of the library.
Training tips

- Auditorium for 30 persons
- Computer class for 16 persons
- Visiting schools and classrooms
- Hands-on learning techniques
- Demonstration
- Handouts as learning and advertising materials
- Digital resources of the library
- Web-based instruction materials
Digital resources of the library
Web-based instruction materials

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtwvodXV0fVamjd78KohPeA
The analysis and assessment of training feedback

“Students are very receptive to learning essential information literacy skills as applying this set of skills in carrying out their (research) tasks.”
Teaching information literacy to Generation Z

• The key information skills must be taught rigorously.

• Implementing collaborative strategies will enable teacher-librarians effectively teach young people and integrate information literacy into the subject courses / curriculum.

• Electronic and digital resources acquired by the libraries can play a critical role in today’s students learning.
References


Thank You!

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