

## Lesson 1



# Digital Skills Innovation

---

### OBJECTIVE

Students will work in pairs to synthesize research from multiple online sources and create a presentation about an innovative digital skills-based solution to a problem.

### TIME REQUIRED

90–120 minutes

### MATERIALS

- Student magazine, *Digital Skills Digest*
- Prep Your Ideas activity sheet
- Computers plus projector or interactive whiteboard

### PREP

Review the Google Applied Digital Skills “Research and Develop a Topic” unit at [g.co/applieddigitalskills/research](https://g.co/applieddigitalskills/research).

### HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM

This flexible ELA lesson is part of the “Digital Skills Get Real” program, which includes video-based blended learning units from Google’s Applied Digital Skills curriculum. For more info, go to [g.co/applieddigitalskills/scholastic](https://g.co/applieddigitalskills/scholastic).

**1** Distribute the student magazine to read and discuss as a class. Ask how the digital skills and tools that the profiled teens used can be applied to solve other problems.

**2** Tell students they will pair up to research one of the digital skills-based innovations they read about in the magazine (e.g., app creation, book design, writing collaboration) or another digital innovation of their choice. Distribute activity sheet. Discuss research choices with students.

**3** Review how to determine credible sources online, using the “Is That Source for Real?” box in the magazine as a starting point. Direct students to follow the Applied Digital Skills “Research and Develop a Topic” unit as a guide to the research process, paying particular attention to the section on Credibility Clues (Lesson 1, Video 2).

**4** After researching, have students create a presentation in Google Slides ([slides.google.com](https://slides.google.com)). They should describe the problem(s) their innovation solves, how the solution works, and its future uses or potential issues.

**5** Have each group present to the class. Have students note one thing that they learned to share as feedback.

---

### EXTENSION

For a deeper examination into how technology is used in a wide variety of careers, students can complete the “Technology at Work” unit at [g.co/applieddigitalskills/techatwork](https://g.co/applieddigitalskills/techatwork).



# Prep Your Ideas

Ready to sharpen the focus of your research topic? Get your thoughts organized by answering the following questions on a separate sheet of paper or in a digital document.

## Pick a Topic

- Which story in “The New Generation of Problems Solvers” was most interesting to you? What did you like about it?
- What questions came into your mind as you were reading this story? If another digital innovation interests you, what is it and why do you think it’s a great topic to learn more about?

My topic \_\_\_\_\_

### Get Focused

1. What problem(s) does your chosen innovation solve?
2. What other problems could this innovation help solve?
3. Do you foresee any possible complications with this innovation in the future? What could go wrong?
4. How could someone improve upon the innovation?

### Source It

1. List the sources you’re planning to use.
2. How will you ensure that these sources are reliable and credible?
3. What new questions does your research bring up?

### Present Like a Pro

1. List some possible titles for your presentation. Remember, a title should draw in your reader/viewer, so get creative with it! Alliteration, puns, and plays on book or movie titles are all great places to start.
2. What photos or illustrations will you include with your presentation? Images add extra impact, so be sure to choose ones that are meaningful (in other words, skip the boring clip art!).
3. Include a list of sources at the end of your presentation. Showing your audience where you got your information lends credibility to your work.