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## Learning and Innovation Skills

Learning and innovation skills are what separate students who are prepared for increasingly complex life and work environments in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and those who are not. They include:

- **Creativity and Innovation**
- **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**
- **Communication and Collaboration**

## Information, Media and Technology Skills

People in the 21<sup>st</sup> century live in a technology and media-driven environment, marked by access to an abundance of information, rapid changes in technology tools and the ability to collaborate and make individual contributions on an unprecedented scale. To be effective in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, citizens and workers must be able to exhibit a range of functional and critical thinking skills, such as:

- **Information Literacy**
- **Media Literacy**
- **ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy**

## Life and Career Skills

Today's life and work environments require far more than thinking skills and content knowledge. The ability to navigate the complex life and work environments in the globally competitive information age requires students to pay rigorous attention to developing adequate life and career skills, such as:

- **Flexibility and Adaptability**
- **Initiative and Self-Direction**
- **Social and Cross-Cultural Skills**
- **Productivity and Accountability**
- **Leadership and Responsibility**

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Support Systems

Developing a comprehensive framework for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning requires more than identifying specific skills, content knowledge, expertise and literacies. An innovative support system must be created to help students master the multi-dimensional abilities required of them in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Partnership has identified five critical support systems that ensure student mastery of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills:

- **21<sup>st</sup> Century Standards**
- **Assessment of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills**
- **21<sup>st</sup> Century Curriculum and Instruction**
- **21<sup>st</sup> Century Professional Development**
- **21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Environments**

For more information, visit the Partnership's Web site at [www.21stcenturyskills.org](http://www.21stcenturyskills.org).  
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