

Year 2 Autumn 1 Computing – What is a Computer?



Big Question

What can a computer do?

Key Vocabulary for the unit:

Battery: A cell or connected group of cells that store electrical energy to power wireless devices.

Computer: Electronic machine that accepts and processes information to produce an output.

Desktop: A tower computer that needs a mouse, keyboard and monitor, that stays in one place.

Laptop: A compact computer that is easy to carry and move around.

Device: Equipment created for a certain purpose or job.

Electricity: A type of energy, that is usually invisible, that can be made or stored.

Keyboard: An input device made up of buttons that create letters, numbers, and symbols, as well as perform other functions.

Monitor: An output device, which shows what is happening on the computer for example videos, images and text.

Mouse: A handheld device that is used to move things around on the computer screen.

Powerful knowledge/skills for this unit:

- ◆ To know the difference between a desktop and laptop computer.
- ◆ To know that people control technology.
- ◆ To know some input devices that give a computer an instruction about what to do (output).
- ◆ To know that computers often work together.

What I should already know from year 1:

- ◆ “log in” and “log out” means to begin and end a connection with a computer
- ◆ A computer and mouse can be used to click, drag, fill and select and also add backgrounds, text, layers, shapes and clip art.
- ◆ Passwords are important for security and to keep us safe.

Useful diagrams for the unit:

Some computers have a keyboard, screen and mouse, others have buttons to make them do things

