what is computer science?

Computer science is being included in K-8 schools, both integrated into other subjects and as a stand-alone subject. This creates a framework for future-proofing our students and modernizing instruction.

1. **Preparing Students for the Future of Work (Career Readiness)**
   - **Universal Skill:** Nearly every high-growth, high-wage field, from healthcare to finance, delies on computational thinking and data literacy. CS provides a foundational literacy for our future economy.
   - **Career Potential:** Introducing CS early opens students' eyes to the vast, accessible, and exciting range of careers they may not otherwise know exist.
2. **Cultivating Confidence and Identity**
   - **See Themselves as Creators:** Early exposure helps students, especially those traditionally underrepresented in tech, realize they are not just consumers of technology, but creators who can shape it.
   - **Building Agency:** When students solve probelms using CS concepts, they gain confidence and a sense of intellectual ownership over complex systems, leading to higher engagement in all subjects.
3. **Boosting Critical Thinking**
   - **Rigor:** Integrating computational thinking naturally increases the rigor of the assignments. CT provides a structured, logical process for approaching challenges in other subjects.
   - **Fostering Creativity:** CS is inherently a creative field. It teaches students to be resourceful, iterative, and persistent, encouraging them to design enw solutions rather than just memorize old ones.
4. **Supporting Core Subjects**
   - **Logic and Sequence:** CT concepts like algorithms and decomposition directly reinforce the sequential thinking needed for reading comprehension, following multi-step math procedures, and conducting scientific experiments. CS is a powerful cross-curricular accelerator.

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