



Distance-learning Educational Content for K-12 Students Now Available in Public Libraries

Available Digitally Are Research Tools from Encyclopaedia Britannica, ProQuest and TeachingBooks

For Immediate Release: August 19, 2020

Contact: Alex Vassar
Communications Manager
(916) 904-2739
press@library.ca.gov

[Sacramento, Calif.] Every local library in California is able to provide access to multiple K-12 educational resources for students, teachers and parents starting now – the beginning of the 2020–2021 school year.

Online resources paid for by the State of California from Encyclopaedia Britannica, ProQuest and TeachingBooks are already available through multiple means – at school, at home, on laptops, on phones -- to all K-12 educators, students, librarians, administrators and families in California.

Britannica and TeachingBooks have been available through local libraries since the 2018 school year. This is the first year for six ProQuest platforms to be available through library websites as well.

“It’s a simple idea: Help more California school kids succeed by being able to find more reliable information more easily where they’ll be going to school this fall – online,” said Greg Lucas, California State Librarian.

Increasing opportunities for learning online prepares California students for a 21st Century information and innovation-driven economy. These resources offered by the state include educational tutorials and guides to assist teachers and students, as well as millions of pieces of information from hundreds of newspapers, periodicals and scientific journals. Many of the resources and search tools can address cultural sensitivity and diversity. Others support early childhood learning.

“Yet another reason every Californian should have a library card,” said Lucas.

The availability of these online resources for all public school and libraries comes from an annual investment of \$3 million through the California State Library that began in August 2018. Since then, the websites have seen 123 million clicks, views and downloads. There has been as much as a 590 percent increase in usage of some resources since March, when schools closed.

The educational platforms available to students, educators and families through the K-12 Online Content Project are:

- TeachingBooks- Main Platform
- BookConnections from TeachingBooks
- Britannica Schools - Pre-K, Elementary, Middle and High School Interfaces
- Britannica Escolar - Written in Native Spanish for K-8
- ProQuest CultureGrams
- ProQuest SIRS Issues Researcher
- ProQuest SIRS Discoverer
- ProQuest Research Companion
- ProQuest eLibrary
- ProQuest School and Educators Complete (eBooks)
- ProQuest Central Student (public school districts and charters only)

Educators and parents interested in exploring the resources during the summer teacher-training open access period can go to the Quick Access page at the California State Library until the end of August. Training is free for local education agencies, libraries and other K-12 education-related entities, especially for parents. More information is on the K-12 Online Content Project page and available through the K-12 Online Content eNewsletter from the State Library.

END OF PRESS RELEASE

About the State Library: Founded in 1850, the California State Library has an extensive collection of documents from and about the state's rich history, ranging from books, maps, miners' diaries, newspapers, and periodicals to photographs, paintings and posters. The State Library also holds federal and state publications, is home to the Bernard E. Witkin State Law Library and the Braille and Talking Book Library, and serves as the lead state agency for library-related services throughout California. [State Library website](#)