



More Students Using More State-Provided Online Homework and Research Tools

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[Sacramento, Calif.] – California’s 6.2 million public school students have conducted more than 284 million unique investigations and searches since July 2018 using the online educational resources provided by the California State Library.

Of the 284 million investigations and searches, more than 145 million occurred since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020 through January 31, 2022. A data snapshot report can be found [on the State Library website](#), and information broken down by county, school district and students connected can be found [in an online spreadsheet](#).

“There’s more work to be done but in just three school years, 93 percent of all California public school students have gotten connected to these online resources,” said Greg Lucas, California State Librarian. “As usage of these homework and research tools increases, hopefully we’ll see even more academic success.”

California’s K-12 Online Resources Project provides research and homework help for the state’s 6.2 million public school students. Educational resources are provided to every public school district, charter school and local library in California through the program – at no cost to the schools or libraries.

By laptop, tablet, or phone – at school, at the library or at home – students are able to research, analyze and use information and media in a way that is self-directed and student-focused, developing both digital literacy and critical thinking skills. Teachers are better able to build content geared to the interests and needs of their students. Family members can participate in and support the learning process, too.

These resources from Britannica, ProQuest, and TeachingBooks have been available since fall 2018. Beginning December 2021, three STEM resources from Gale were added to the program as well. Students now have online access to *National Geographic Kids*, an interactive science tool, and an environmental studies resource – all at no cost to local district, library, school, teacher, or family.

The project provides technical support and training for teachers. Between July 1, 2020, and February 28, 2022, the State Library coordinated online trainings with 7,307 educators from 53 counties. This includes local library staff who can assist students in their local libraries.

The California State Library coordinates the program in partnership with the Riverside County Office of Education. The project is an example of California’s ongoing commitment to making educational opportunities available to all students, families, and residents.

A complete report for the 2021-2022 school year will be available in late summer.

CORRECTION: The previous version of this press release noted the end date for the usage and training calculations as December 31, 2021. The numbers in the report reflect usage data through to January 31, 2022, and training session data through to February 28, 2022.

END RELEASE TEXT

About the State Library: Founded in 1850, the California State Library has an extensive collection of art, books, diaries, maps, newspapers, periodicals, photographs, and posters from throughout California’s rich history. The State Library is also California state government’s information hub and 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](#)