

Robert J. Kleberg Public Library Newsletter
Happenings @ Your Library®
Saturday, January 24, 2015

Research Resources for Students

Students returning to school for the spring semester can rest assured that they will have the needed resources for their reports and assignments thanks to the library's online resources. Students who have a valid public library card and access to a computer and the Internet can connect to the library's popular suite of databases, tutorials and practice exams to gain an edge in their academic studies.



TexShare®: Discovery Texas is a literal cache of resources that is comprised of verified journals, magazines, newspapers, historical photos and reviewed web links for academic use. This resource, which is exclusive to libraries and schools, locates information from private databases that are reviewed and approved by educators and librarians and is checked for accuracy and authenticity. Texshare®, which is a free service to Texas library users, offers K-12 student

resources for homework and research help. Patrons wanting to access Texshare® can contact the Reference Librarian for the userID and password. Once students obtain that information, they can visit the library's website at www.kleberglibrary.com, select the eLearning Resources menu tab, and click on TexShare®: Discovery Texas.

Also available through TexShare® is *LearningExpress® Library 3.0*. Featured in the LearningExpress® database is the School Center which features tutorials, practice tests, and eBooks. These tools can be used for skills improvement for elementary, middle, and high school students. If college readiness is the goal for high school students, LearningExpress® offers help in this area as well. The College Preparation Center offers practice tests for exams including SAT, ACT, and AP. Students can also access practice tests to prepare for college placement exams. If students are considering a career in the military, they can prepare for the ASVAB. College students wanting to attend graduate school can prepare for graduate school admissions exams like GMAT, GRE, LSAT, and MAT. Students needing to develop their computer skills can access modules, so they can learn the fundamentals of their computer, the Internet, and popular software applications with easy-to-follow multimedia tutorials.



The library also offers non-fiction electronic books on a variety of subjects for book reports and research papers. The digital collection is available through the library's *Overdrive®* database.



Students can access these eBooks directly from the library's digital collection through a web browser, or download the OverDrive® app to their device and take their books with them wherever they go. From the library's homepage, students can click on "Visit the Digital Collection for Kids & Teens" at the bottom of the screen. In addition to offering the non-fiction eBooks, the library has also compiled a collection of homework resources on its website. From the College Students tab, patrons can access AcademicIndex®. Kids and teens can access Kidtopia®, and from

the Ready Resources tab students can open Infotopia®. Students can also access homework assistance by selecting the Literature Study Guides, which includes Cliff Notes® and SparkNotes®.

Foreign Language Resources

For students studying new languages, the library offers a suite of *Mango®* products. Students can access *Mango®* by visiting the library's website and clicking on the *Mango®* languages icon at the bottom of the screen. A student then creates an account using their library card number. Interactive and easy to use, *Mango®* teaches actual conversation skills. *Mango®* offers 59 foreign language courses, 17 ESL courses, 26 specialty courses, and 16 film courses online. Some specialty courses include legal and medical Spanish. Students with an Android or iOS-powered device can download *Mango®* Mobile. The library also offers *Mango®* Playaway®s, MP3 players preloaded with a language course, offering learning portability for the student on the go.



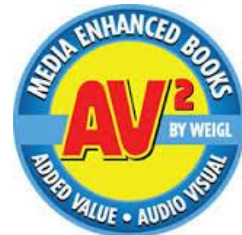
Children Learning Resources

Print and online resources are also available for younger students simply by visiting the library's computer lab or visiting the library's website. For parents with students from preschool through early primary, the library has made available *ABCmouse.com*.



From the children's computer lab, students can click on the Explorer icon labeled www.abcmouse.com to access this website. This service features six academic levels, over 450 lessons, and more than 5,000 individual learning activities. As students progress through their step-by-step learning path, they are motivated with tickets and a rewards system. Curriculum

subjects include reading, math, science, social studies, art, and music. The library has also introduced *AV² Media Enhanced Books*, a useful, interactive resource for students. *AV²* books provide media enriched content that supplements and complements that book's subject. To access the content, the reader enters that book's unique code on *AV²* website, www.av2books.com, and answers a specific question to that book. Then that book comes alive as the student listens to sections of the book read aloud, watches informative video clips, gains additional information through web links, studies vocabulary, and views images and captions. Students can also complete activities, quizzes, and hands-on experiments. For students that do not have a computer or Internet at home, the library's Children's Computer Lab is available during regular lab hours.



Digital Information Goal

The Robert J. Kleberg Public Library's digital information goal is to provide programs, services, and digital resources that are responsive to changes in education and community needs. The public



library strives to provide students with up-to-date academic and research resources. The library's digital resources are designed and selected to teach students skills that they can carry with them throughout their lives. For more detailed information about the library's electronic services, patrons can call the library at 361-592-6381. Students and parents needing assistance with homework and reference resources can also visit the Children's Services or

Reference Departments. The librarians are ready to assist and answer any questions patrons may have about the library's online services. The public library is located at 220 N. 4th Street and is open Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.