Resources@Your Fingertips!

New Name...Same Great Service

Thought you dialed the wrong number when you called to book a resource? Never fear, Instructional Media Services still exists only under a new department name. Information and Library Services, the new name for IMS, more accurately represents the services provided by the department—Professional Library, Resource Centre Programming, Library Acquisitions, Processing & Cataloguing (think Mandarin and the OPAC), and Textbook & Curriculum Distribution. We hope you enjoy the new newsletter—Resources@Your Fingertips!—that replaces IMS Resource News.

Information and Library Services Newsletter

Providing Quality Catholic Service

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To book resources call Cheryl Markwart (228), or Val Gerrard (372)

Resources Online

If you’ve accessed the Internet from an RCS workstation, you will have noticed that the internal homepage has changed. The new default is the RCS Learning Village homepage. Never fear...all of the great resources located under the old “Research” and “Teacher” drop-down menus are still accessible!

To access a wealth of quality websites, databases, and encyclopedias, select the Resources Online link. The new interface is organized into a chart.

New Databases

Two new databases have been made available to all Saskatchewan residents as a result of the work of the provincial Multitype Database Licensing Program.

- **NovelList** (and NovelList K-8) are fiction databases that provide access to book reviews and lists, booktalks, book discussion guides, and much more.
- **Auto Repair Reference Center** contains information on most major manufacturers of domestic & imported vehicles, technical service bulletins & recalls, diagrams, labour time guide & estimator, and other “auto” facts.

Both databases are accessible through the “Resources Online” link from the RCS internal homepage.

Search Tip

To create a bibliography using the OPAC:
- Conduct a search.
- Mark the items you want with a (✓).
- Add the tagged items to the Bookbag (Add to Bookbag button along right side of screen).
- If necessary, conduct more than one search using different keywords. Duplicates will be ignored.
- Select the Bookbag button (top toolbar).
- Before printing, select the Sort (author, title, etc.) and Format (expanded or brief).

Before creating another bibliography on a new topic, press the RESET button.
InfoTrac Interface

Just when you thought that you had it figured out, technology changes! The interface for the InfoTrac suite of databases has been updated. Twelve of the seventeen databases default to a PowerSearch. This means that the database are crossed-searched simultaneously. Sound like a good idea? Not if you're a student! By conducting an aggregate search that includes highly academic databases, students may be overwhelmed by the search results. The good news is that the databases still include a wealth of quality information—newspapers, journals, magazines, pamphlets, reference books, and e-books.

To help students narrow their search, encourage them to remove the default “Select All” checkmark and select the one or two databases that will meet their needs. E.g. Student Edition and CPI.Q.

Databases not included in the PowerSearch are identified at the end of the database list. These include Kids InfoBits, Literature Resource Center, and the Health and Wellness Resource Center (a much more student friendly health database than the one included in the PowerSearch).

E-Books

Interested in e-books? Check out the Gale Virtual Reference Library, a new database in the InfoTrac suite of online resources. Titles include:

- Canadian Parliamentary Guide 2005
- Child Development (2002)
- Encyclopedia of Distance Learning (2005)
- Encyclopedia of Food and Culture (2003)
- Encyclopedia of Knowledge Management (2006)
- Gale Encyclopedia of Alternative Medicine, 2nd ed. (2005)
- Terrorism: Essential Primary Sources (2006)
- World War II Reference Library (2000)

To access the e-books, select the Resources Online link from the RCS Learning Village homepage. Click on the InfoTrac Databases link under the “N” in N.E.E.D.S. Scroll down to the bottom of the PowerSearch and select the Gale Virtual Reference Library.

Fluency Theater

Do you have a mixed ability classroom with students who read at, below, and above grade level? Then this is the series for you! Fluency Theater helps students build fluency and comprehension skills by taking a part in a play that subtly encompasses 3 different reading levels. Each of the 6 characters is identified with a different colour so students at a variety of reading levels can still interact and work in a group. Each play is accompanied by supporting readings. There are 6 copies of each title as well as a teacher’s guide. Titles include:

- Really Tall Tales [Gr. 3]
- The Simple Life [Gr. 7]
- Cityscapes [Gr. 7]
- Pursuit of Happiness [Gr. 7]
- How Great Is Art [Gr. 7]
- Technology for Living [Gr. 7]
- Spectacular Science [Gr. 7]
- A Cut Above [Gr. 7]
- Save Us From Ourselves [Gr. 7]

Drama Book Nook

Refer to the OPAC for detailed information about each title:

- 111 One Minute Monologues: The Ultimate Monologue Book for Middle School Actors by K. Dabrowski
- Just Deal With It! Funny Readers Theatre for life’s Not-So-Funny Moments by D. Jenkins
- Cool Characters for Kids: 71 One minute Monologues, Ages 4-12 by J. Milstein
- Improvisation Starters: a Collection of 900 Improvisation Situations for Theater by P. Bernardi
- Improve with Improv! A Guide to Improvisation and Character Development by B. Jones