Finding and Evaluating Sources

Objectives:
Use the Bountiful High Library and Utah's Online Library to find sources.
Use search engines such as Sweet Search to find credible web sources.
Use the CRAAP test to determine the validity of a source.

Accessing Utah's Online Library

1. Go to https://bhs.davis.k12.ut.us/school-information/library-media-template. You can also get here by going to our school website, clicking School Information, then clicking Library Media Center.

2. From the Library page, click Books and Databases, scroll down to Utah's Online Library.

3. Here you will click K-12 Schools. If you are accessing this site away from school, you will be asked to enter a password. See purple bookmark.

4. From this page, you will select either Gale or Ebsco.

5. Let's practice navigating this far.

District Home | Select a School

BOUNTIFUL HIGH SCHOOL

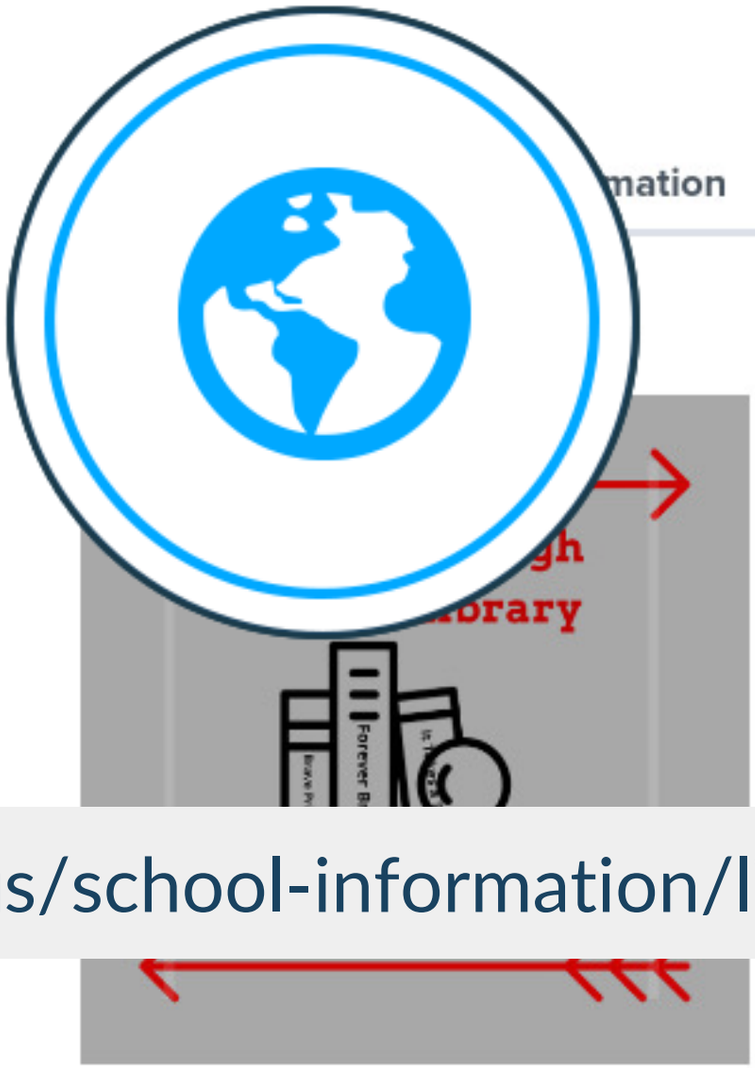
HOME > SCHOOL INFORMATION > LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Library Media Center

Whitney Wallace
Teacher Librarian

Library Hours:
Monday, Wednesday-Friday: 7:15am-2:45pm

Tuesday: 8:30am-2:45pm



mation | Books and Databases

https://bhs.davis.k12.ut.us/school-information/library-media-template

Open Ended Question

Now that you have accessed the databases, choose either Gale or Ebsco to search for an article on Bigfoot. Provide the article title, author, and publication date.

Please enter your answer here.

Collaborate!

Why did you choose the database you did?

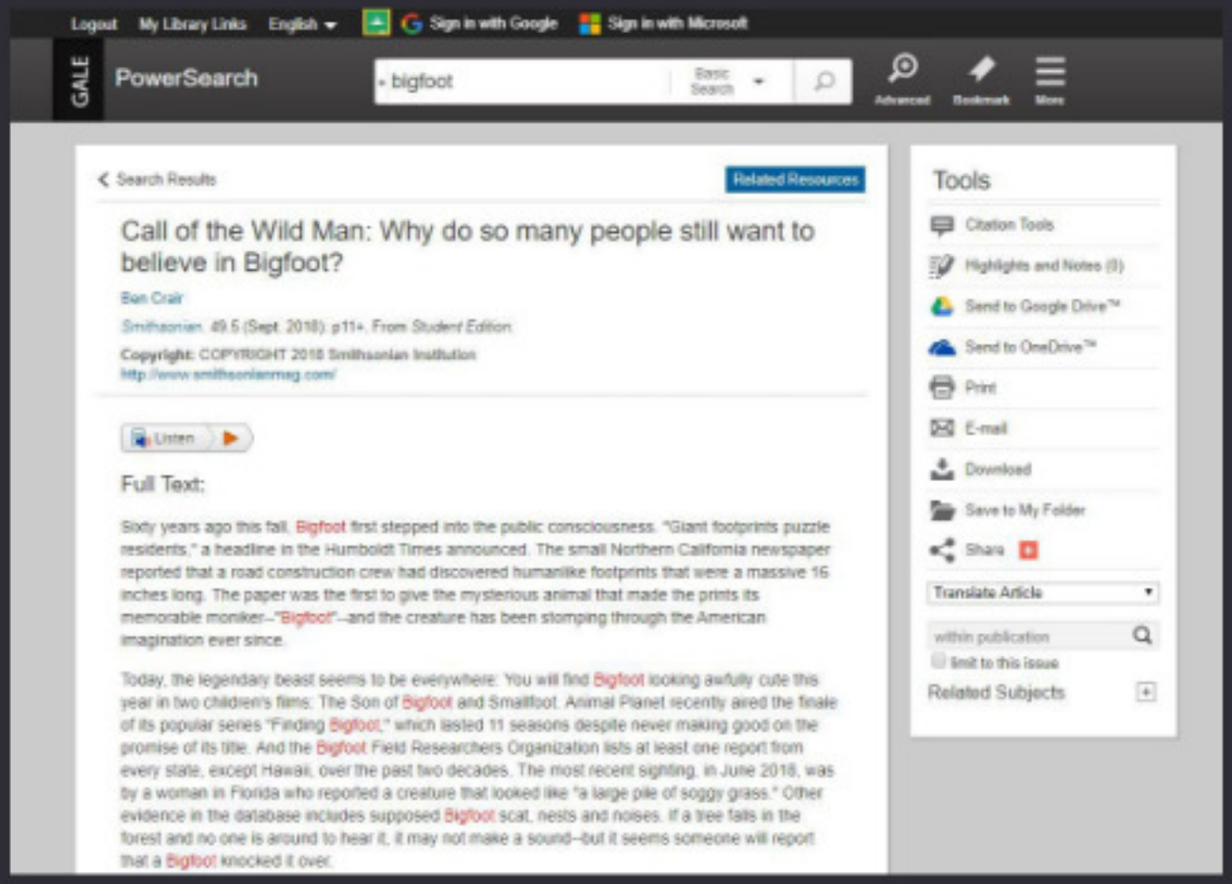
Database Tools

Both Gale and Ebsco have tools that help you along the research process.

First, I'll show you Gale's tools.

1. Citation Tools: On the right side of the screen, click on Citation Tools. This brings a pop up of citation entries. Select the format you wish to use, and copy and paste it directly to your Works Cited or Reference page.

2. Highlights and Notes: Here you can take notes, make highlights, and it saves everything you do to the article. This means, that if/when you email it to yourself, print it, save it to Google, etc. your notes and highlights will save with it.

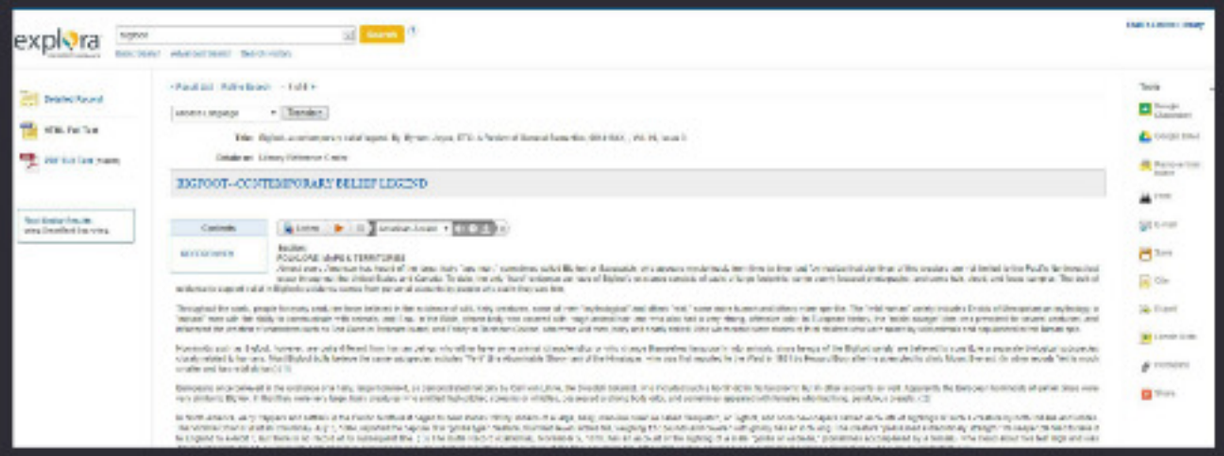


Database Tools

Ebsco

1. Just like Gale, Ebsco has many of the same tools. Ebsco will often show articles in PDF, but if it has the option on the left side to see HTML Full Text, click it.

2. Ebsco has the same citation tools on the right as Gale. Ebsco also has the ability to take notes, but not to highlight. These notes will be exported just like they would in Gale, but Ebsco does not connect to your Office 365.



Saving Articles

Once you have found an article you'd like to use and you have evaluated it (we'll get to that soon), you'll want to save it. To do this, you will have to do one of the following:

1. Email to yourself
2. Upload it to your Google Drive or One Drive
3. Print it

DO NOT SIMPLY WRITE DOWN THE URL. The web addresses for databases articles are constantly changing, so if you write it down today, there is no guarantee that when you type it in tomorrow it'll show up.

Sweet Search

SweetSearch.com is a great, higher level search engine. It works just like Google, but it doesn't bring back things like Wikipedia or Blogs.

Sources from Sweet Search are .gov, .edu, PBS, and news sources.

Boolean Operators

BOOLEAN COMMANDS

Boolean commands or operators allow you to link keywords together in various combinations to research complex topics.

AND

Allows you to combine keywords & tells the database to locate items containing both words.

Narrows Search

Example:
CHINESE AND POTTERY

This command will locate records where both the words CHINESE and POTTERY appear.

OR

Allows you to search for items that contain either word. This command can be used to link synonyms.

Broadens Search

Example:
POTTERY OR CERAMICS

This command will locate items that contain either the word POTTERY, or CERAMICS, or both.

NOT

Allows you to excludes terms from your search that are implied by your search terms.

Narrows Search

Example:
POTTERY NOT ANCIENT

This command will locate items that contain the word POTTERY but excludes any that also include the word ANCIENT.

Building Search Strings

The 'OR' and 'AND' commands can be used together to create effective search strings. Here's an example:

(pottery or ceramics) and Chinese

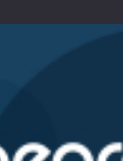
Using this search, the database will first look for records that contain the word "pottery," the word "ceramics," or both. After creating a set of your results, the database will then search for records that contain the word "Chinese" and create a second set of results. Next, the database will combine the results of the two sets.

You can use as many boolean commands as necessary in a single search statement.

(pottery or ceramics) and (Chinese or Asian)

Search Tip

The "OR" command generally requires the use of parenthesis () around each search phrase to work effectively.



Natural Language

You may use natural language or everyday speech, when you do a keyword search. While many databases recoginizes natural language, you will be able to improve your search results by using Boolean commands.

Truncation

Allows you to search for the root of a word with all possible endings. The asterisk (*) is often the symbol used for truncation.

Example: child*

This will locate all endings of the word "child" including children, childlike, childish, etc.

Still having trouble understanding Boolean commands? No Problem! Try talking about your search strategy with a librarian at the reference desk.

The Sage Libraries
libraries.sage.edu | 244-2431 | libref@sage.edu

Piktochart
make information beautiful

Books and eBooks

Now that you know how to find articles using Utah's Online Library, let's use our own library!

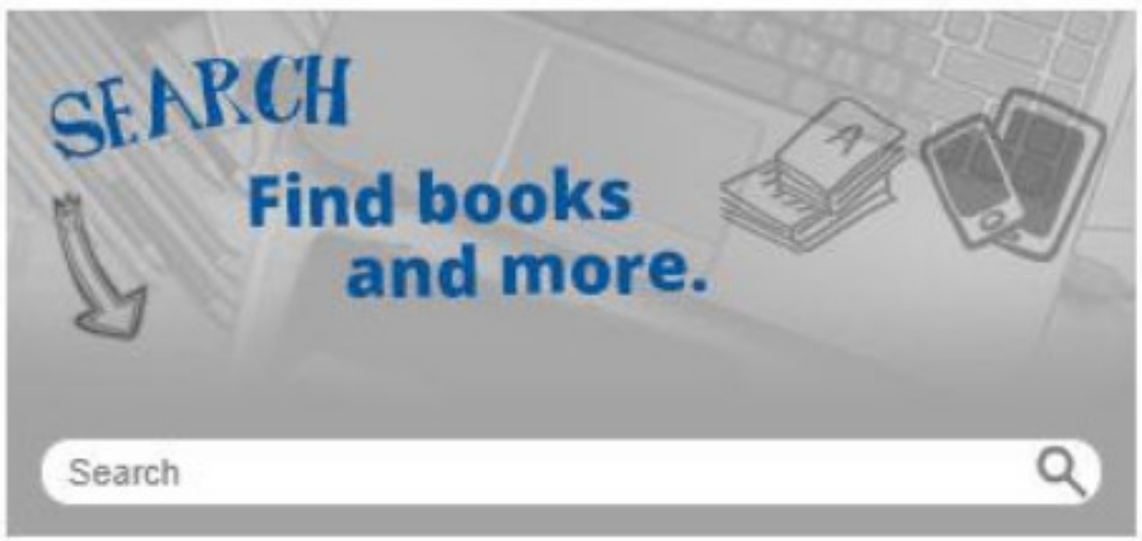
We have almost 10,000 books and ebooks for you to use, whether it be for your research assignment or for your own reading.

To search our catalog, go back to the Library web page, click on Books and Databases, and then either click on the Catalog or type a term into the gray search bar.

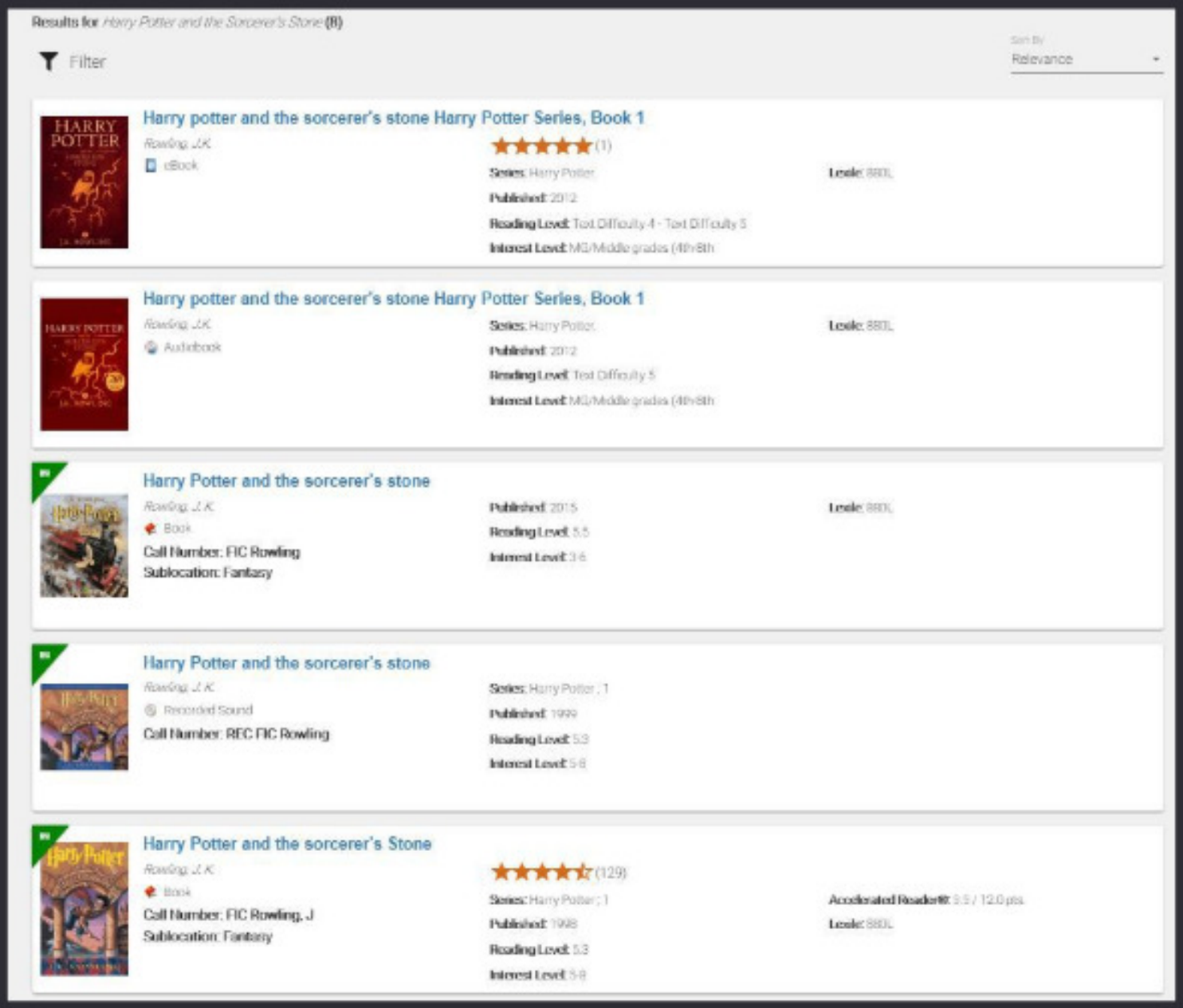
Looks Like This

Library Destiny Catalog

Bountiful Library Catalog- Browse the books in our library.



Search for Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone



Open Ended Question

Search for a book of your choice. Do we have it? If so, is it an ebook, book, or audiobook?

Please enter your answer here.

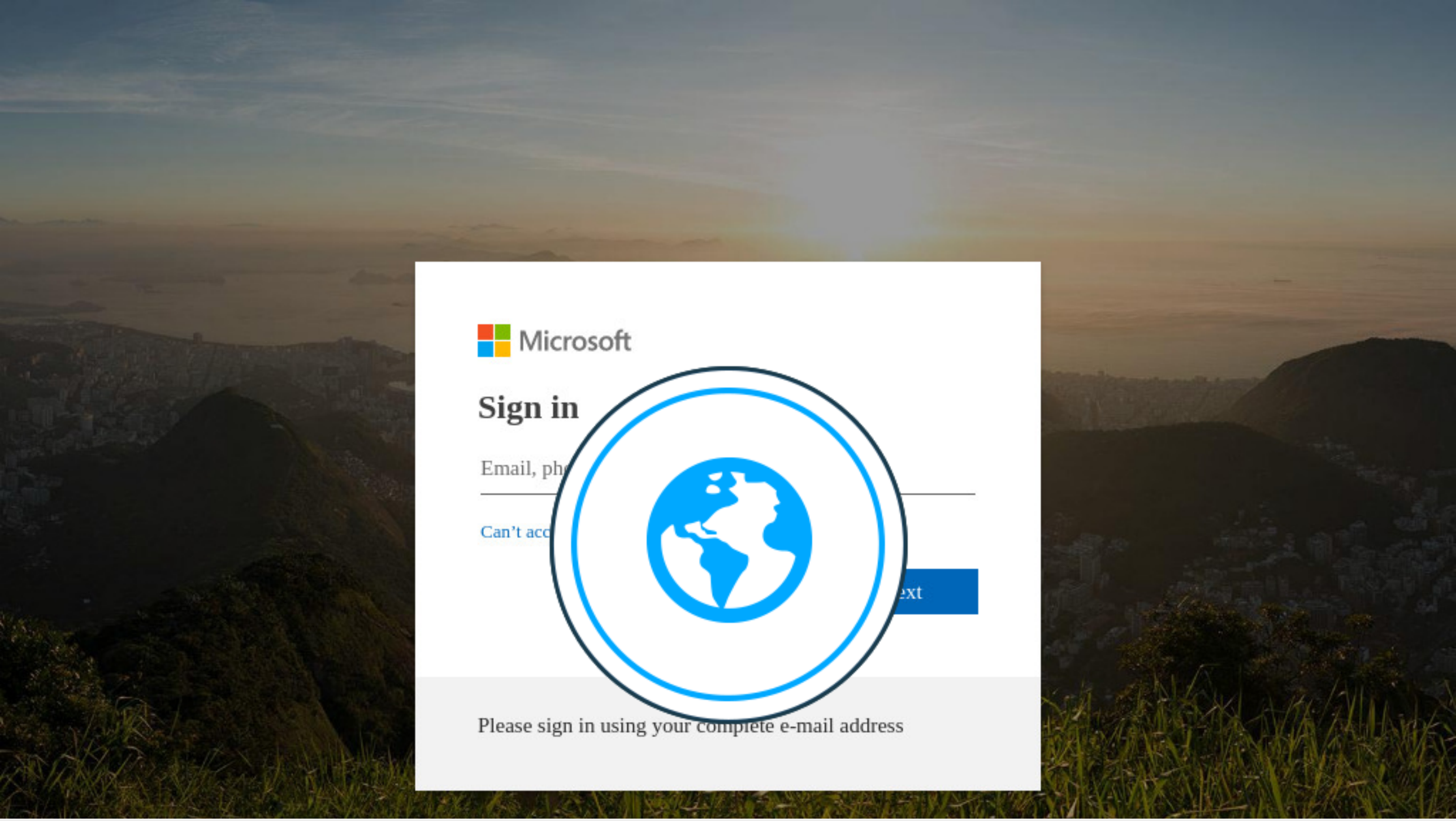
How to Put a Hold on a Book

If you find a book on our catalog that you would like to check out, you can place a hold on it. This is for physical copies only. We'll talk about ebooks and audiobooks shortly.

Log in using your username and pin. Click on the title, and select hold. If the book is currently marked "In", it will be ready for you when you come to the library to check it out. If it is currently checked out, I will send a notice to you when it is available.

Now on to ebooks and audiobooks.

Ebooks and Audiobooks



http://DAVISUT.LIBRARYRESERVE.COM

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1. Always with you.

2. You can take notes and make highlights that remain in your account even after you've returned the book.

3. NO LATE FEES :)

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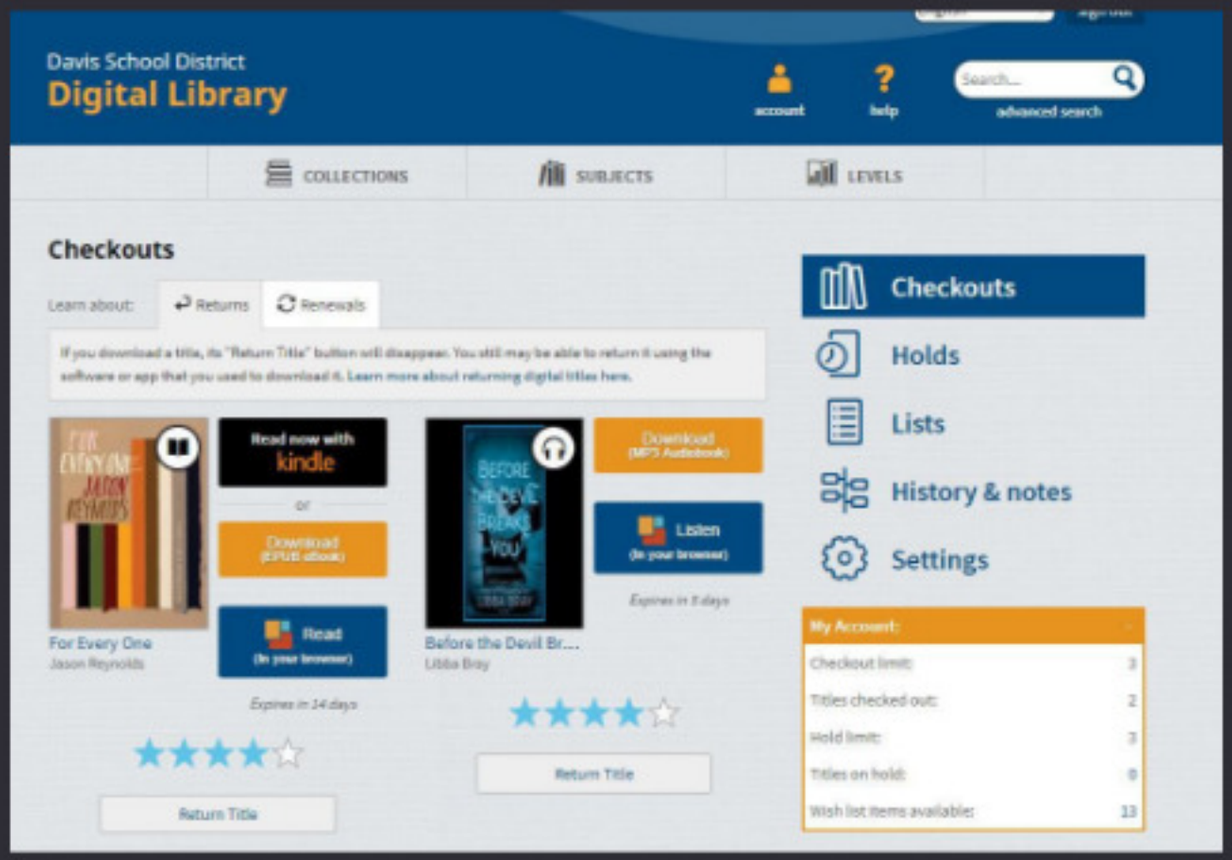
To do this, click on the title, click Borrow, then click your checkouts.

Here it shows your current checkouts. If you have an ebook checked out that you want to read on your Kindle, click Read Now with Kindle to send it to your device.

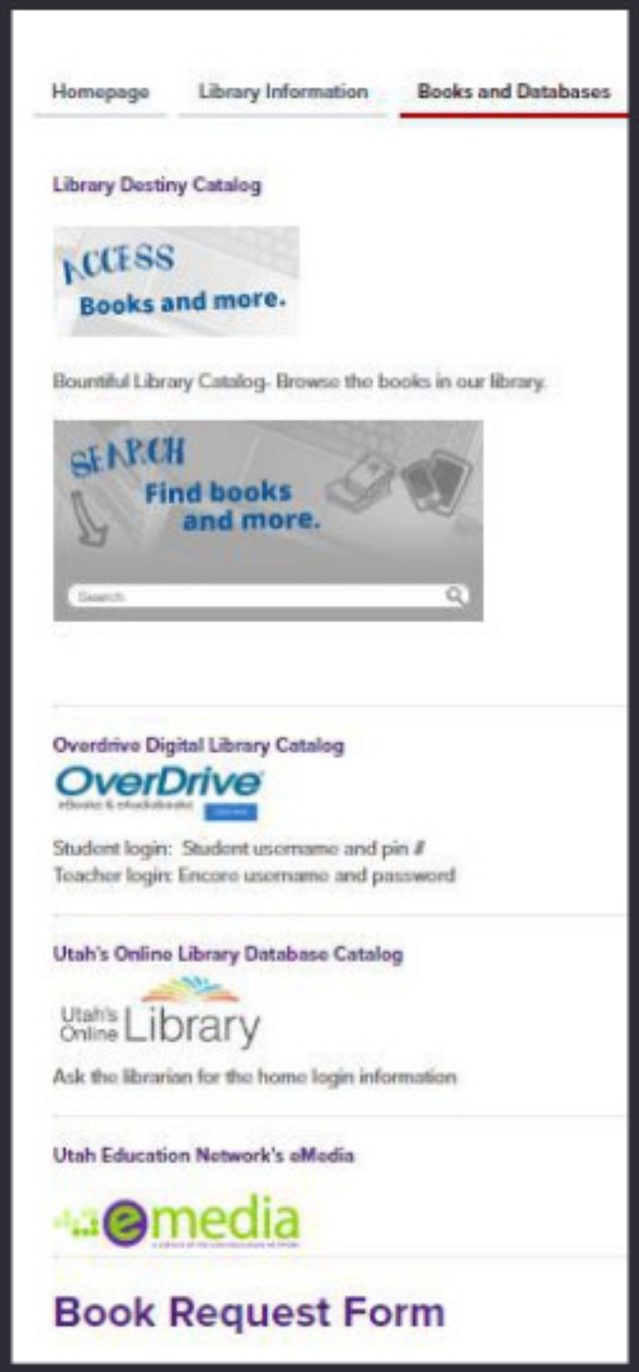


Poll

Which do you prefer:

- Books
- eBooks

Request Books



Slideshow

IS IT CRAAP?

The CRAAP Test helps you evaluate sources to determine whether or no they are appropriate for an academic assignment

Currency	When was the information published or posted? Has the information been revised or updated? Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well? If a web source, are the links functional?
Relevance	Does the information relate to the topic or answer your question? Who is the intended audience? Is the information at an appropriate level (not too elementary or advanced for your needs?) Have you looked at a variety of sources before determining which one to use? Would you be comfortable citing this source for you assignment?
Authority	Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor? What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations? Is the author qualified to write on the topic? Is there contact information, such as publisher or email address? If a web source, does the URL reveal anything about the author or source? (.org .edu .gov)
Accuracy	Where does the information come from? Is the information supported by evidence? Has the information been reviewed or refereed? Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion? Are there spelling, grammar or topological errors?
Purpose	What is the purpose of the information? Is it to inform, teach, sell, entertain or persuade? Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear? Is the information fact, opinion or propoganda? Does the point of view appear objective and impartial? Are there political, ideological, cultural, relgious, institutional or personal biases?

Adapted from:
"Evaluating Information - Applying the CRAAP Test." Meriam Library, California State University Chico
https://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/eval_websites.pdf

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Evaluating Sources

What is the CRAAP Test?
CRAAP is an acronym for Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose.
Use the CRAAP Test to evaluate your sources.
Currency: the timeliness of the information
When was the information published or posted?
Has the information been revised or updated?
Is the information current or out-of date for your topic?
Are the links functional?
Relevance: the importance of the information for your needs
Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
Who is the intended audience?
Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. not too elementary or advanced for your needs)?
Have you looked at a variety of sources before determining this is one you will use?
Would you be comfortable using this source for a research paper?
Authority: the source of the information
Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
Are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations given?
What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations given?

Evaluating Sources Check List:

Once you've located your resources in the online database and catalog, you should evaluate them to determine if the information presented is useful for your research. Consider the following criteria:

Relevance

Is the content of the item suitable for your research?

In a journal article, usually the abstract or lead paragraph will give you enough information to determine if the item is relevant. Be sure to check the date of publication. Does it fit with your research needs?

Circle your answer: Yes, No, Not Sure

Timeliness

Is the information provided in the article or book up-to-date?

Check the date of the publication. Are you l ls (sources which originated near or at the time of an event, idea, or phenomenon) f an historic event? The nature of your assignment will determine whether

Circle your answe

Reliability

Is the information presented ac

One way to help determine the ocuments on the same topic to check supporting facts or data.

Circle your answer:

Validity

From what sources were the facts gathered?

Be sure that you know where the information presented in the source is coming from. Is the work based on personal opinion, original research, laboratory experiments, or other documentation? Is the periodical a scholarly journal or a popular source? A book based on opinion or research?

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