



# TEC Library



## Library Letters

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### Database - Mania!

I suspect that very few people have graduated college in recent years without at least once using a database. No longer are they the clunky, microfiche/microfilm dinosaurs of old. Today's databases are on-line, easily searched using a variety of methods and contain up-to-the-minute information that can rival even the best books or periodicals.

Although most databases are only available through cost-prohibitive subscriptions, anyone with an active public library card (King County or Seattle Public) can access nearly all of their databases from any computer.



*ProQuest* is perhaps the most well-known of the databases available, however, King County has several others worth looking into.

*Biography Resource Center* contains biographical data on thousands of people, both living or not. It can be searched by name, or one can simply browse a long list of categories.



### More on Databases...

*Daily Life Online* is a historical database providing information on how people lived during various eras. Users can gather information about what people ate, family life, religion, music, dance, science, technology and much more from about the 8th Century B. C. E. through the 21st Century.

Pop Culture Universe contains both trivial and factual "pop culture" information from the 1920's through today.



Finally, *Grolier's Lands and Peoples* serves as an easier version of *Culturegrams* for students exploring different world cultures.

Using a database can eliminate the guesswork involved in determining



whether a website can be trusted since most databases are vetted and published by known authorities.

*Any underlined blue items below are links*

### Know Your Library!

The Tye Library carries a large array of "reference" materials such as several levels of basic encyclopedias, encyclopedias on specific subject matter such as the environment, natural disasters, diseases, biographies, health, as well as various atlases, almanacs and dictionaries (which cover more than just words, but topics, too!).

Published references are reliable and authoritative. Most contain easy-to-use indices, chapter headings and in-text sub-headings that can guide students to specific information.

Before sending students off to the Internet, suggest using one of these kinds of reference books first. Just looking at an encyclopedic entry for a topic of interest provides students with some background information they can use as a foundation for judging subsequent information and can help students generate keywords for later searches on-line or using a database.

[Mike Eisenberg on Libraries](#)

[Library Services](#)   [Library Brochure](#)

### Reminders for Library Use

#### Library Reminder #1:

It is advised that teachers not schedule time in the library with a substitute. Please make arrangements with the teacher-librarian if this is unavoidable.

#### Library Reminder #2:

Schedule time in the library in four easy steps:

1. Pick-up a scheduling form in the library OR use the [on-line form](#) sent to you
2. Fill out the form as indicated. Please feel free to conference or collaborate with your librarian.
3. Return form (only when form is returned is your request scheduled).
4. Check calendar through sent link to confirm scheduling request.

#### Monthly Drawing Winner #3!

Congratulations to **Joyce Hungi**, a sophomore at Global Connections. She won a \$25 gift card from Barnes & Noble.

For more information about how students can participate, click on the link above and print out the poster to put up in your classroom. **The next drawing will be January 30.**

Contact your TEC Librarian by email: [carlsolm@hsd401.org](mailto:carlsolm@hsd401.org)  
By phone: 988-7230 or visit the [TEC Library Website](#)