INFOhio
OHIO'S PreK-12 DIGITAL LIBRARY

The INFOhio Impact

Discover how INFOhio's resources impact students across the state.

Big News from an Ohio Classroom
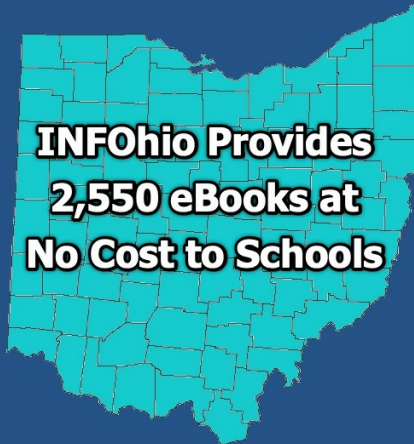# Students are Empowered through Research with INFOhio's ISearch

Hudson Middle School's library media specialist Lorri Kingan and teacher Beth Hohenfeld are empowering 8th grade students through research and service learning. From teen suicide prevention to the effect of plastic straws on the environment, Lorri and Beth harness student enthusiasm for tackling these tough problems with research. Beth states that she wants to teach students the real value of research: identify a problem and find a way to solve that problem.

Beth uses INFOhio's ISearch, which has seen a 15% increase in use this school year, as the first stop

for student research because it is "a library full of a thousand libraries" with a seemingly endless access to magazine, newspaper and journal articles, primary sources, and encyclopedia entries. Lorri teaches the research process: using keywords, narrowing a topic, and, most importantly, identifying credible sources. Her students write their action plans to solve the problem, which are grounded in solid research. Eager to earn credibility and respect for their solutions, students learn first-hand the importance of research. As one student reflected, "I will do research before making an important decision and will look for the facts and the experts to guide me along the way."

Lorri and Beth assert that confidence blossoms as students transform into educators and advocates. One student investigated methods to support English Language Learners (ELL) at school. Her research led to the development of an action plan that provides teachers and students with steps and strategies to support ELL students in the classroom. She now volunteers in ELL classrooms in her district and helps to raise awareness about the needs and challenges unique to ELL students.

INFOhio Provides 2,550 eBooks at No Cost to Schools

Digital Content that Impacts Student Learning, Not District Dollars

INFOhio provides over 2,550 eBooks to all of Ohio's students and teachers in grades PreK-12 at no cost to school districts.

See how Oak Hill Elementary School and Bedford City School students use these eBooks to support literacy skills in the "Students Jump into Reading with Storia from INFOhio" story below.

Take a look at other popular resources available at no cost to Ohio schools!

BookFlix
Paired fiction and nonfiction popular texts that engage readers and support literacy.

Science Online
STEM resources including articles, diagrams, learning modules, interactive virtual experiments, timelines, and biographies.

World Book Advanced
Online encyclopedia with eBooks, videos, primary sources, read-aloud and translation features.
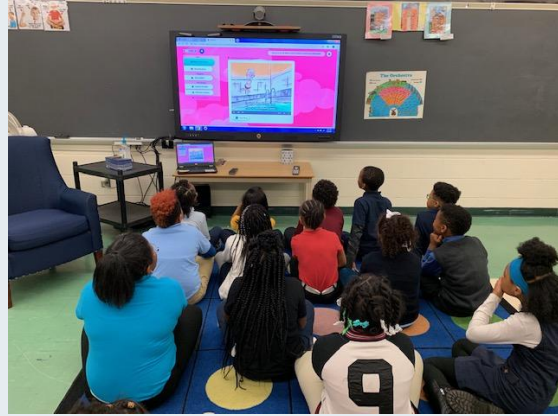
View More Resources

News from Classrooms Around the State
INFOhio Impacts Learning Everywhere

From Cuyahoga County
INFOhio's BookFlix Breaks Down Student Learning Barriers

BookFlix is breaking down barriers to student learning at Bedford City Schools! Students love BookFlix for the entertaining animated stories and popular titles they immediately recognize, and teachers, librarians, and library staff love it

too! Mrs. Poindexter, librarian at Central Primary and Columbus Intermediate, states that BookFlix helps students learn sight words, and intervention teachers like using BookFlix to support students with individualized learning needs. Remember the fun story of *Chicken Little*? When paired with the nonfiction eBook, *What is Gravity?*, young readers learn about the science concept of gravity from the fiction and nonfiction pair. Other nonfiction eBooks support social studies, science and math. Karen Sullins and the library staff prove that #INFOhioWorks for the students and teachers at Bedford City Schools!
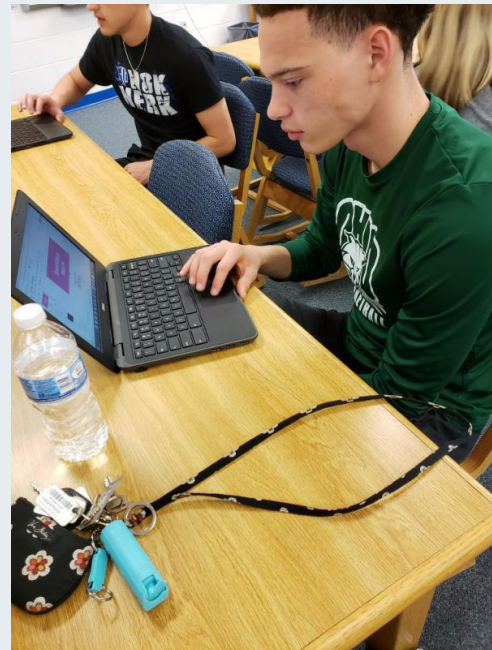

From Muskingum County
Student Science Researchers use INFOhio's Resources

Lori Lee, Zanesville City Schools district librarian, is teaching a senior College Research and Technical Writing course where students are learning and perfecting their research skills. Many of the students have future career interests in science and want to get more practice in writing scientific research papers. Students have chosen research topics like exercise addiction, body image, CRISPR gene therapy, vaccinations, blood disorders, and serial killers. They use many of the science databases from INFOhio, like Science Online, Science Reference Center, Explora 9-12, Points of View Reference Center, and the open access resources found through ISearch.

To help students with their scientific research and writing practice, Lori uses the online Research for Success (R4S) curriculum developed by INFOhio to create online hyperdocs for class work. Future scientific researchers are in the making at Zanesville City Schools!
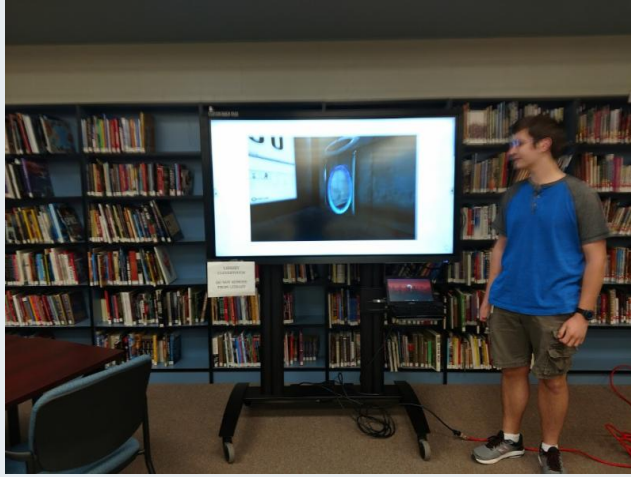

From Clermont County
Teachers use INFOhio Tools to Create Fun, Game-Centered Projects

Milford Exempted Village School educators were challenged this year to use personalized professional learning in place of traditional staff development in large group presentations. Melissa Chandler, library media specialist, answered the call and turned to INFOhio's digital resources to meet this challenge. She found numerous current educational journal articles using INFOhio's Academic Search Premier to research the topic "designing authentic learning experiences." After sharing and discussing the educational journal articles and then applying what she learned, Melissa created a fun-filled and authentic project for her students.
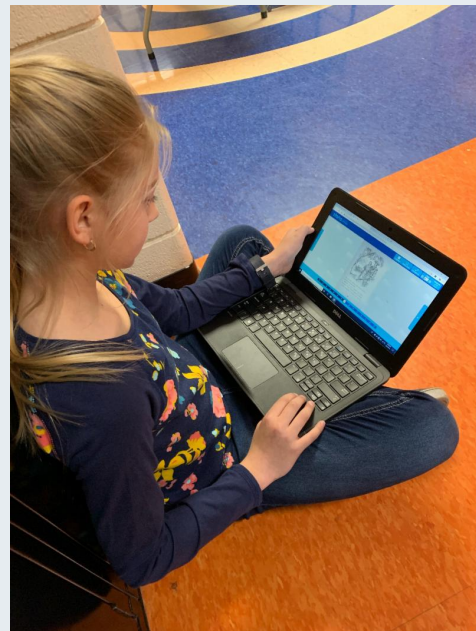
Her project required students to pick an online game accessible at school. Then, using project management software, students researched the development of the game, created a timeline, prepared step-by-step instructions about how to play the game, and presented their findings. Melissa was challenged to master the game using only the student instructions. Finally, students challenged her to compete against them. Although Melissa had her best results playing Club Penguin, the students beat her every time. While students learned how to use new project planning software, create timelines, and deliver an effective presentation, Melissa learned how to access INFOhio digital resources to create more authentic learning experiences. And they all had fun too!

From Jackson County

Students Jump into Reading with Storia from INFOhio

Katy Jones, Oak Hill Union Elementary School 4th grade teacher, says she is always looking for ways to motivate and engage students in reading. In the middle of this year, Oak Hill technology coordinator Ron Johnson, introduced her to Storia from INFOhio. Storia is a collection of more than 300 eBooks searchable by student interest. "After introducing Storia, I was taken aback by the increase in reading by my students. They were frequently asking to use the program on their new laptops and enjoying the variety of eBooks Storia had to offer. The students were excited to show me when they had completed the quizzes and answered all the questions correctly. I am able to see the stories the students are choosing to read which enables me to incorporate the stories into instruction, as well as document the number of minutes that students are reading throughout the week. I can also assign an eBook for the students to read, and we can discuss the book together as a whole group. Storia has allowed more students to become engaged and motivated in reading." Oak Hill had an enormous reading jump in February; 4th grade students read 29,207 pages!

[Read more stories]

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