Ask your School Librarian about Michigan eLibrary (MeL) Resources

MeL is Michigan's eLibrary for schools, libraries and all state residents! MeL provides access to a wealth of online resources and valuable research information at any time; and it offers an easy-to-use interlibrary loan system (MeLCat) for participating libraries. MeL is available in schools, libraries and at home with no passwords needed. MeL is a project of the Library of Michigan, as a service to the state, provided at no cost to users.

Libraries continue to be a source of advice and guidance for information. MeL stands as a link between printed and electronic resources. Not simply another "search engine," MeL is a vast collection of articles, books, videos, maps, illustrations, photographs, early literacy resources, test prep and more organized into easily navigated roadmaps for users.

Your school librarian is an expert in MeL resources and can guide students and staff to the right materials at the right time. School librarians have training and experience in finding and evaluating information and incorporating it into your curriculum needs. They can help you design and present lessons that fit current Michigan Academic Standards for the inquiry process. Together you and your school librarian can teach students how to become skillful, information literate researchers.

MICHIGAN eLIBRARY
meL.org

As you work with your school librarian, here's how to get started:

1. Review with students the inquiry process of developing a question; locating information; evaluating information; applying information; and sharing the knowledge learned. The Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME) Web Resources for Instruction page offers Curriculum Resources Aligned with Standards; Information Literacy Resources; Research Models; and Educational Web Tools at www.mimame.org/web-resources-for-instruction.html.

2. Go to MeL.org to find quality tools and resources. Resources are organized into Gateways, including:

   • **MeL Kids Gateway** (mel.org/kids) focuses on developing reading skills and practicing basic research skills. The Gateway includes games, read-aloud stories, beginning research, and music from top quality providers geared from pre-school through middle-school. There are Michigan history primary and secondary resources. These resources help children at all levels recognize words; assemble them into thoughts; and generally understand the process of writing, all while having a good time!

   • **MeL Teens Gateway** (mel.org/teens) focuses on honing and verifying sophisticated research and daily living skills that students will need in college and career. Resources are arranged into four categories geared specifically to teenagers: Homework Help; Life Happens; Reading Zone; and College Bound (teens.mel.org/MeLCollegeBound). The Gateway puts invaluable information at the fingertips of youth.

   • **Test Preparation** on MeL is available through LearningExpress Library. This eresource provides interactive learning centers such as skills building for grades 4-12, College Prep, Careers, GED and more. All areas include interactive feedback.

3. Stay informed about the Michigan eLibrary and 21st Century learning skills.

   • See the weekly MeL Minute, a brief review of a resource a week, at the MeL Minute icon at mel.org.

   • Check out the training videos in the Promotions & Training Gateway at mel.org/Promotions.

   • Keep updated on educational and technology developments via MAME's Professional Resources page at www.mimame.org/professional-learning-resources.html.

   • Follow Michigan eLibrary events and trending news on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/mel.org and on Twitter at https://twitter.com/meldotorg.