# Welcome to the library, budding scientists!

EPL has all kinds of free resources that you can access online and in-person with your library card.

## Who can get a library card?

Anyone that lives in Edmonton can get a library card for free! A parent or legal guardian must help you create a library card if you are under 18. Visit your local branch or <a href="https://www2.epl.ca/register/">https://www2.epl.ca/register/</a> to register online.

Don't live in Edmonton? Visit your local library system to see what they can do for you, and everyone is always welcome to visit EPL buildings and read, research, and study in the branch.

## How to use the catalogue

EPL has all kinds of physical materials (books, audiobooks, DVDs, etc.) and digital materials (eBooks, audiobooks, streaming videos, etc.). Borrowing items is free with your library card, and most items can be borrowed for 3 weeks at a time (some exceptions include streaming videos).

## Searching the catalogue: tips and tricks

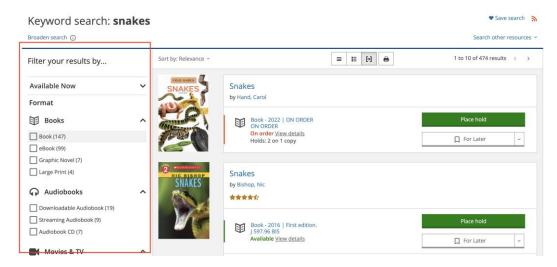
You can look through EPL's whole collection by searching the website. For general searches, search by "Keyword". You can also search by "Title" and "Author" if you are searching for a specific item.



Once you have a list of options, you can narrow them down using filters. Filters can be found on the left side of the screen on desktop and using the "Filter results" button on mobile. You can also apply several filters at the same time.

Some useful filters include:

- Availability = choose the library branch you are going to visit to see if your item is currently there
- Format = choose whether you'd like a book, eBook, audiobook, DVD, etc.
- Content = select "Non-fiction" to remove results that you cannot use for research
- Audience = selecting "Children" or "Teens", depending on your age, will help you find the right kinds of resources for you



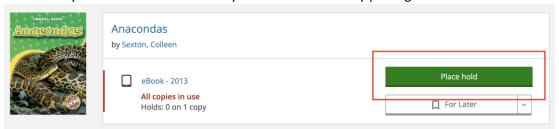
Once you find an available item you would like to use, check where it is by clicking "View details." A popup will tell you which branches have your item on their shelves.

## Availability details



## **Placing a Hold**

Is the item you need unavailable? Put yourself next in line by placing a hold.



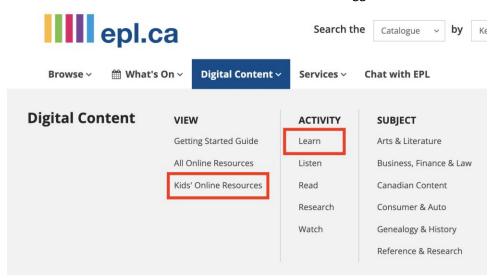
You will get to choose the branch where you will pick up your physical items (books, CDs, DVDs, etc.). Digital items (eBooks, downloadable audiobooks, etc.) will appear in your account on EPL.ca. In either case, EPL will call or send an email when your item is ready to be checked out!

## **Databases**

EPL has a number of databases that are free to use with your library card! Databases are a great place to find information and articles from credible sources. Check out the options below, or ask an EPL staff member for help choosing the right one for you.

## **Accessing Databases**

Visit <u>www.epl.ca</u> and click on the Digital Content tab. For great student-focused databases, try clicking "Kids' Online Resources" or "Learn" for a curated list of suggestions!



If you are in a library branch or on a library computer, you will not need to sign in with your card number and PIN. If you are elsewhere, have your card number and PIN handy!

Can't remember your PIN? No problem. Drop in to a library branch with your adult guardian and we can reset it for you!

## Which Database Should I use?

Databases target certain topics and age groups. Here are our suggestions for you!

#### Grades 4-6

## **PebbleGo Next Science**

PebbleGo is a great place to gather information on different fields of science, with articles on everything from plants and animals to science and technology.

#### Features:

- Text-to-speech
- Videos
- Dictionary
- Citations

#### **PowerKnowledge Databases**

All of the PowerKnowledge databases have the same cool features, focusing on different topics. Each database also has a section dedicated to Science Fair Projects, from sample experiments to an all-youneed-to-know Science Fair 101.

#### Features:

- Articles can be downloaded as Word documents or saved to Google Drive
- Videos with transcripts
- Citations
- "Find Out More" section to suggest additional web sites and books

## PowerKnowledge Earth & Space Science

Covers topics like earth cycles, ecosystems and biomes, energy and matter, weather and climate, rocks and minerals, water, and space.

### PowerKnowledge Life Science

Covers topics like animals, endangered species, plants, food chains and webs, habitats and ecosystems, adaptation, and the human body.

#### **PowerKnowledge Physical Science**

Covers topics like atoms and molecules, elements and the periodic table, energy and matter, force and motion, and temperature and measurement.

#### Grades 4 & Up

#### **National Geographic Kids**

Includes magazines, books, videos, and pictures on a wide variety of topics. New issues of *National Geographic Kids Magazines* appear online a minimum of 90 days after publication date. Features:

- Print full articles
- Search with keywords
- Text-to-speech
- Dictionary
- Citations

#### **Science Reference Center**

This amazing research center spans all areas of science and has thousands of magazines, journals, encyclopedias, reference books, images, over 1,000 experiments, and more than 2,000 videos. Features:

- Search or browse by category or popular sources
- Filter searches by type (books, magazines, academic journals)
- Print full articles
- Download as PDF
- Speech to text

Citations

#### **World Book Encyclopedia**

A great starting point for everyone. Includes more than 25,000 World Book Encyclopedia articles, edited to suit students from grades 4 through 12 and adults. Also includes more than 1,800 tables, 100 animations and videos, 10,000 pictures, 500 maps.

Features:

- Select your age group
- Search or browse by current events
- Text-to-speech
- Modify text size or translate articles
- Citation Builder

## **Birds of the World (formerly Birds of North America)**

A research database and encyclopedia specifically about birds! Includes thousands of species with pictures, diagrams, video, and audio.

Features:

Citations

### **Gale Virtual Reference & Research Library**

Browse eBooks that range from general non-fiction to academic texts. Includes a subjects like General Reference, Science, and Technology

Features:

- Filter searches based on subject, document type, and content level
- Download or print articles
- Text-to-speech
- Modify text size or translate articles
- Citations

## **Asking for help**

It's okay to feel stuck! EPL staff are here to help you with your questions whenever the library is open (and if we're closed, we'll get back to you as soon as we can)!

Find the branch nearest you: <a href="https://epl.bibliocommons.com/locations/">https://epl.bibliocommons.com/locations/</a>

Not able to come into a branch? Reach out in one of these ways:

Call us: 780-496-7000 Text us: 587-817-0337

Chat live with staff: <a href="https://www2.epl.ca/chat/">https://www2.epl.ca/chat/</a>
Send us an email: <a href="https://www2.epl.ca/contactepl/">https://www2.epl.ca/contactepl/</a>