



UTAH EDUCATION NETWORK
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WWW.UEN.ORG

The Pioneer (Library) Experience UCET 2008

Ann Howden
ann@uen.org

K-12 Schools
PIONEER
Utah's Online Library

Select Category:

[Advanced Search](#)

General Reference Collection

- CultureGrams
- EBSCO
- eMedia
- SIRS Discoverer
- SIRS Knowledge Source
- Soundzabound
- Visual Thesaurus
- World Book Encyclopedia

Utah Collection

- Deseret News Archive
- Deseret Morning News
- The Salt Lake Tribune
- SURWEB
- State of Utah Archives
- UCME (Utah Collections Multimedia Encyclopedia)
- Utah Digital Newspapers
- Utah's Local Newspapers
- Counties of Utah

Additional Library Resources

- Spanish Resources
- Thinkfinity (Formerly MarcoPolo)
- ThinkQuest
- ALA Internet Resources
- Library of Congress
- MWDL (Mountain West Digital Library)
- eThemes
- Other Pioneer Partners

Pioneer Library General Reference Collection

CultureGrams

CultureGrams contains information on the cultures of 187 countries of the world and all 50 states. In addition, students are able to view geographical information, history, maps, flags, and photos from the regions of the world.

Curriculum ideas:

- Students research a country and prepare a native dish using the CultureGrams recipe collection. Hold a food fair and let the students sample from around the world.
- Compare and contrast statistics from the United States and nations around the world. Compare Utah to the United States using the Graphs and Tables from CultureGrams.

- ✦ Create a slideshow of images to show students different cultures or show the video segments available in the database to introduce students to the world.
- ✦ Hold a geography bee, a travel expo, or play a game to learn about world flags.
- ✦ Compare communication styles, dating rituals, and language differences.

EBSCO

EBSCO provides a number of databases specifically designed for K-12 schools. This is the most extensive resource in the Pioneer Library with hundreds of publications to search through. As part of EBSCO, **Searchasaurus** is a child friendly search interface in EBSCO specifically designed for elementary grades.

Curriculum ideas:

- ✦ Research about the latest disease or possible pandemic and plan a national strategy for intervention and prevention.
- ✦ Do research on a famous artist and gather images for a class presentation.
- ✦ Find a great article about a current event and translate it into French, Spanish, or German for your foreign language students.

eMedia

eMedia contains a wealth of video resources for Utah teachers and students provided by UIMC, PBS, and UEN. All the resources found in eMedia can be downloaded for playback in the classroom.

Curriculum ideas:

- ✦ Show your creative writing students one of the “write now” segments to help them get ready for a new story.
- ✦ If a student missed class the day you showed a great video clip – download it to the student’s iPod so he/she can watch it later.
- ✦ Show your foreign language students a cartoon or video clip in the language they are learning to speak.

SIRS Discoverer

SIRS Discoverer Deluxe contains a general reference database that has a child friendly search interface specifically designed for elementary and middle school grades.

Curriculum ideas:

- ✦ Work on students map and geography skills by downloading and printing some of the thousands of maps available.
- ✦ Send students here when they are working on a biography project of a famous person.

SIRS Knowledge Source

SIRS Knowledge Source provides access to thousands of full-text articles, documents, and graphics for educators, high school and college students.

Curriculum ideas:

- ✦ Find just the right primary source or government document for your social studies class.
- ✦ Give students great tips and guides to help them write a good research paper.
- ✦ Have students research a current event or health issue to prepare for a class debate or an upcoming essay.
- ✦ Research how mathematics impacts the stock market.

Soundzabound

Soundzabound provides royalty free music for download.

Curriculum ideas:

- ✦ Download a rhythm and blues tune to teach students about that music genre.
- ✦ Help students download a song to add to their photo story project.
- ✦ Find some great music to use for the end of year slide show or the class fieldtrip movie.

Visual Thesaurus

Visual Thesaurus is an animated display of words and meanings. The Visual Thesaurus program has over 145,000 words and 115,000 meanings and can be used in several languages.

Curriculum ideas:

- ✦ Start sharing a “word of the day” with your students and use visual thesaurus because the website already has one each day.
- ✦ Project VT for the students to see and define vocabulary words as a class.

- ✦ Find great lesson plans provided right on the side to enhance vocabulary training in your classroom.
- ✦ Search and define words in up to 6 languages.

World Book Encyclopedia

World Book Online provides an easy-to-understand encyclopedia of information that is updated regularly. A Spanish language version, Kids edition and Advanced edition are also available.

Curriculum ideas:

- ✦ Find just the right primary source or government document for your social studies class.
- ✦ Use world book advanced to create specific and personalized timelines for your current unit of study.
- ✦ Use “surf the ages” to experience the trial of Joan of Arc first hand.
- ✦ Find specific information about Utah history, geography, and Native American tribes.
- ✦ Match your curriculum standards to specific resources in World Book – leave the guessing up to them.