

Librarian's Shelf by Heather St. Clair

Languages, Car Repair and Practice Exams, New at Your Library

The Columbus Public Library has purchased three new electronic resources for those with Columbus Public Library or Platte County Bookmobile cards.

First we have the Chilton Library, which covers cars, trucks, vans and SUVs from 1940 to the present. In addition to step-by-step instructions, you can also view photos and diagrams and watch video and animations to further assist in understanding repairs and maintenance procedures. This resource is also updated on a monthly basis to insure you have the most current information.

We also acquired Powerspeak Languages. By creating a free account you can keep track of your progress in learning Spanish, French, German, or Mandarin (Chinese). Go beyond using flash cards by performing activities such as memory, multiple choice, fill in the blank, and listening and recording your own voice. In addition, this is all available for Spanish speakers wanting to learn English. Also learn about the cultures associated with each language.

Finally, we have the Testing & Education Reference Center. This database isn't just for college bound students, but also covers technical schools, grad students and more. You can find information on schools – both colleges and technical – and take practice exams for entrance, certification and license exams.

Build a resume, learn how to change careers, search for jobs, build networking skills, or learn how to choose a college, learn about applying to colleges and choose courses, perform scholarship searches, plus much more.

There are ebooks and over 300 practice tests. View guides and take practice exams for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, GRE, ASVAB, Law Enforcement, Nursing, Cosmetology, MCAT, TOEFL, U.S. Citizenship and many others.

These three databases are all available in the library (in the computer lab or on your laptop, plus on your mobile with an app) during open hours and 24/7 outside the library (with a library card). To access these, navigate to www.columbusne.us/library and click on E-Materials under Quick Links.

You can also view other electronic resources from our E-Materials page, such as America's Newspapers, OverDrive Audio and Ebooks, and Salem Health. Complete Connection, Books in Print and Books & Authors each offer something a little different, but they are all tools to find out about your favorite books, series, and authors, as well as read reviews, and find similar reads.

You will also find resources for biographies, genealogy, magazines, newspapers and journals, as well as videos, all paid for by the library or the Nebraska Library Commission. Access information that isn't freely or easily available on the internet just by coming to the library or using your card at home.

Library cards are freely available to anyone living in Platte County with proof of address. If you need help or have any questions about these or other materials, please feel free to stop in the library, call us at 564-7116, or email us at library@columbusne.us.