



**Lititz Public Library's
Guide to Online Resources
and At-Home Activity
Recommendations
During the
COVID-19 Pandemic**



Unfortunately, we've all been dealing with extreme and rapid changes as of late due to the novel coronavirus pandemic... and it has been difficult. We at the Lititz Public Library understand that many rely on the library as a source for both information and entertainment and would like to remind you that, even though our doors are temporarily not open to the public, there are still ways that we can be of service.

You may not be able to check out books or movies for the interim, but you still have access to e-books and e-audiobooks through Libby and OverDrive. We also have online resources to aide you and your kids with studies, research, professional pursuits, and general information.

We also realize that staying at home for an extended time can be challenging for many people—but for the time being, it is *strongly recommended* to stay home in order to help prevent the virus from spreading. Does the notion of staying at home overwhelm you with a sense of boredom? We'll do our best to help with that. The amount of things that *can* be done at home can be just as overwhelming as the thought of not doing anything at all.

We'll do our best to get through this together. Please stay safe and healthy... and we look forward to seeing your face at the library once we are open again.



Stay Informed

- ◆ **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:** <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- ◆ **Pennsylvania Department of Health:** <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>
- ◆ **Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center:** <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>
- ◆ **World Health Organization:** <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
- ◆ **Penn State Health:** <https://yourcare.pennstatehealth.org/acton/fs/blocks/showLandingPage/a/34718/p/p-002c/t/page/fm/0>
- ◆ **And, of course, be sure to check your favorite news resources as updates occur frequently.**

...And Take Care.

- ◆ **It is excellent to keep informed at this time. It is also wise and healthy to know when to step away and focus on something else for a while... hence the many activities outlined on following pages.**
- ◆ **What calms you? How do you relax? What at-home activities do you most enjoy? Do those things! Get lost in them!**
- ◆ **With more people working from home and more children doing school work online, the internet may not be up to the increased demands. It is a good idea to have some favorite analog activities to do.**
- ◆ **Even a little sunlight and fresh air can be beneficial.**
- ◆ **Our lives have shrunk spatially in a matter of days, and things are going to be quite different for a while. Yes, it feels as if everything has been turned upside-down and it may even be difficult to tell what day of the week it is anymore. You may be lonely and unable to see your loved ones. It's hard. It hurts. It's frightening. We understand. These are not easy times.**
- ◆ **A little levity now and then can help to get through dark and stressful times.**
- ◆ **Stay safe and healthy.**

Online Databases



Lititz Public Library

Nourishing the Mind ♦ Enriching the Community ♦ Connecting to the World

Go to Pronunciator to learn languages—there is now also a COVID-19 language course that is offered.

Home

What We Offer ▾

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Purchase Suggestion

Lib

eBooks & eAudioBooks

Databases

Speaking Volumes Archives

Wowbrary

Databases

Pronunciator

TechBoomers

Power Library Resources

To use online databases, go to Lititz Public Library's homepage, www.lititzlibrary.org. Click on "eResources", and then either "Databases" to find a complete list of databases or "Power Library Resources" for databases categorized by theme or appropriate age groups.

REMINDER: You will be asked to type in your library card number (with NO spaces) to access databases, and then you are all set to go!

TechBoomers is great for those interested in learning more about how to use technology. Many free courses are offered. It's worth exploring.

Some Online Databases Worth Noting...



BrainFuse HelpNow offers live tutoring and study helps for many subjects, from elementary school through college. Includes ELL lessons, fun games to reinforce key concepts for many subjects and grade levels, and also has study guides and test preparations for SAT, AP courses, CLEP, ASVAB, and more.



TrueFlix and **Gale Kids InfoBits** are safe resources for children learning the basics of research that allow them to dig deeper into topics that interest them. **BookFlix** and **Tumblebooks** offer a variety of fiction and nonfiction books that can be read online.



Gale Health & Wellness Resource Center offers quality health information in a world where health *misinformation* is all too easy to come by.



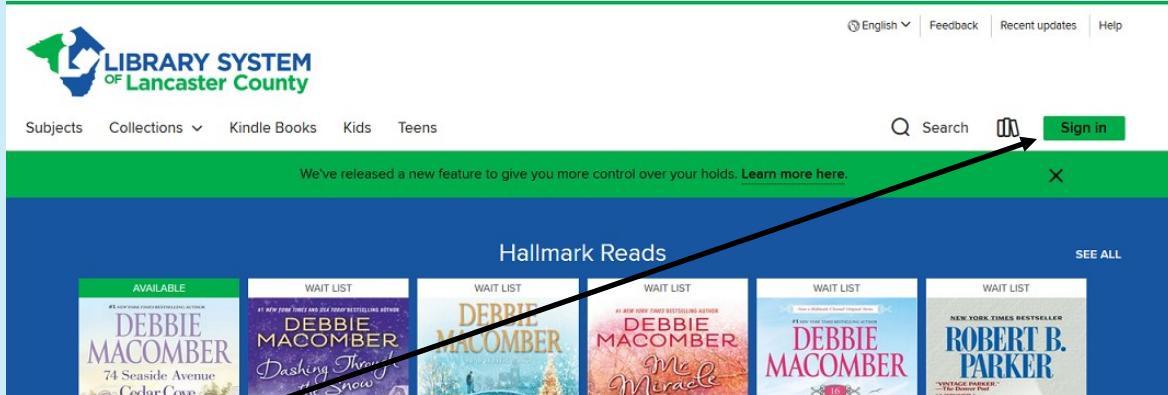
Driving-tests.org provides practice tests and driving handbooks.

...other databases include but are not limited to **Heritage Quest**, **Hoovers**, **InfoTrac Newsstand**, **GREENR**, **Auto Repair Source**, **Pennsylvania CareerLink**, **BrainFuse JobNow**, and many more.

Download E-books

Did you know that you can download e-books and e-audiobooks through the library? Get started here: <https://lancasterlibraries.overdrive.com/>

And this is what the web page looks like:



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Library System of Lancaster County. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for English, Feedback, Recent updates, and Help. Below the navigation is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and a 'Sign in' button. A black arrow points from the text above to the 'Sign in' button. The main content area features a banner about new features for holds, followed by a section titled 'Hallmark Reads' displaying book covers for Debbie Macomber and Robert B. Parker.

Click “sign in” to type your library card number, and you’re ready to start downloading e-books and e-audiobooks. You don’t need to worry about fines—e-books disappear when they’re due. They are checked out for two weeks, just like other books. Downloads can be enjoyed on your computer, phone, tablet, or e-reader.

Libby and Overdrive are both apps that you can download for free—again, you will need your library card number to get started.



While you’re busy downloading apps, MyLibrary! is handy to have as well. This, however, is for keeping track of your physical loans—not the digital ones. You can use it to check due dates, renew items, and request titles to reserve... once the libraries are back open, of course.



Get Bookish

READ!

- ◆ **Already stocked up on library books? Read them!**
- ◆ **Perhaps read something you haven't read before—go beyond your comfort zone. Try a new genre. A biography. Some nonfiction. Read something about which you know very little.**
- ◆ **There's nothing wrong with curling up and rereading an old favorite, either.**
- ◆ **You know those books you stockpiled at the last book sale that you haven't had the chance to read yet? You have time now. They've been waiting patiently.**
- ◆ **Read all of those, too? Aren't you speedy! How many books do you own, anyway? Why not count them? Do you have more books than all your friends? Find out, and perhaps take a "shelfie" or two! While you're at it, see if you can find the longest book you own!**
- ◆ **That took a while, didn't it? Have you ever downloaded e-books before? Try Libby! Audiobooks are a great option, too.**
- ◆ **Project Gutenberg (<https://www.gutenberg.org/>) offers e-books and e-audiobooks for FREE—you can find just about any classic in different formats to download, or you can just read the text in your web browser. It's great for students who need to get their hands on classic works *immediately* for class.**

...And why not write?

- ◆ **Need a break from reading? We all do... on occasion. Writing is wonderfully cathartic, too, especially during stressful times.**
- ◆ **Why not take a stab at the novel you've been wanting to write? Or you could write songs, poems, even a play for your family to act out. An epic poem could keep you occupied for a long while.**
- ◆ **Writing pangrams is a fun challenge, too. Pangrams are sentences that contain every letter in the alphabet, such as "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog." We'd love to hear your examples!**
- ◆ **Tongue twisters are great fun to write, as well! (Plus, they're easier!)**
- ◆ **If you don't know how to write cursive, now's a good time as any to learn.**
- ◆ **Nothing's stopping you from learning calligraphy, either!**
- ◆ **...or creating illuminated manuscripts!**
- ◆ **Journaling has many health benefits. Bullet journaling and art journaling have become popular nowadays—why not give one of them a try?**

Get Creative... Play... Learn!

- ◆ How about the guitar, piano, ukulele, or whatever instrument it is you have gathering dust in the corner? Now's a good time to play it!
- ◆ Do crafts! Make anything out of whatever you want!
- ◆ Draw! Paint! Make a portrait of a pet or family member. Illustrate the epic poem you just tried to write. Maybe it'll inspire you to write some more. You could even invent an imaginary animal to draw, design a fancy car, or draw your favorite superheroes or book characters. The possibilities are limitless.
- ◆ Write/draw your own graphic novel or comic strip.
- ◆ Quilt, knit, crochet, or do some counted cross stitch. Create as much as you want. Get a head start on making birthday presents.
- ◆ Do some woodworking—but be cognizant of exercising shop safety, PLEASE.
- ◆ Tinker with an engine... *only* if you know what you're doing.
- ◆ Make greeting cards or do scrapbooking.
- ◆ Do a puzzle. Or two. Or more. You're not pressed for time. Try one of those 1,000-piece puzzles if you're daring enough.
- ◆ Play some board games with your family.
- ◆ Cook! It's a great time to try that new recipe you've been meaning to test out.
- ◆ Experiment with some photography. Capture that sunrise or sunset. Take note of the tulips and daffodils popping up.
- ◆ How about Fraktur?
- ◆ Exercise is essential... and it does not require a gym. Walk or run (but keep a safe distance from other people). Hop on that stationary bike or treadmill. Lift those dumbbells. Grab some resistance bands. Do yoga. Pilates. Stretch. There's really no excuse for not exercising. But don't start out too intense if it has been a while—USE COMMON SENSE, PLEASE.
- ◆ ...and if your pets have been inactive, they might appreciate some extra play time as well.
- ◆ Reach out to someone you haven't heard from in a while. The world is overrun with lonely people right now. Call, text, Skype or FaceTime, send an email, or even a card or letter (if you feel safe sending anything through the mail at this time). Be reminded that not everyone in the world uses social media, has smart phones, or even has internet access, so putting forth the extra effort to keep in touch would be greatly appreciated by more people than you realize.
- ◆ Travel while staying home. Many museums can be toured online. Watch documentaries. Read travel books. Pour through some maps or satellite images. Just don't meander off now, please. Stay safe and stay put.
- ◆ Teach yourself a new language using Pronunciator.
- ◆ Plan your garden plots—it's definitely time to start thinking about that!

Get Clean & Tidy

- ◆ ...and it conveniently happens to be spring cleaning season. Since you just stocked up on all those sparkling cleaning supplies, use them!
- ◆ If you like, try making a game of cleaning with your family. See who can get things the cleanest (*not* the quickest).
- ◆ For some of us, cleaning and organizing has a calming effect. Maybe it doesn't for everyone, but it still should not go neglected.
- ◆ Tackle your garage, attic, basement, and/or workshop. Clean windows, vacuum, shampoo carpets, clean the bathrooms (don't forget to disinfect showerheads—germs love them!), get your home office back in order, tidy cabinets, closets, and drawers... especially the junk drawer. Tidy up any area that attracts piles of things you forgot you had—you'll be amazed by what you unearth.
- ◆ You could always dust those bookcases as you count your books.
- ◆ Don't forget digital clutter. Sometimes our digital spaces get out of control faster than our physical domain.
- ◆ Why not get your family photos in order—tangible or digital.
- ◆ Remembering to clean your phone (carefully) is crucial right now. If you didn't know it already, our phones tend to have more bacteria than our hands. Ewww! It also may not be a bad idea to try using a stylus instead of your fingers. At the very least, it cuts down on smearing a great deal.
- ◆ You might as well sanitize your other technological devices while you're at it—and don't forget keyboards and mice!
- ◆ And you must be sick of hearing it by now, but... perhaps it would be wise to wash your hands again and be sure to scrub for at least 20 seconds. It cannot be stressed enough.

What else can you think of to pass the time?
There is much more out there...



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www.lititzlibrary.org

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