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Research Resources Available at the Santa Maria Public Library

The Santa Maria Public Library has a wide array of research sources available at the library building, but did you know that you can also access a number of these resources from home? All you need is your library card and to go to the City of Santa Maria website, www.cityofsantamaria.org, click on Library on the left side of the website and then click on "Search the databases" in the center of the page.

Some of the databases you can access from home are the following:

Biography in Context is a database that includes more than one million people throughout history and around the world. The database includes information about celebrities, historical people, politicians, inventors, artists, scientists, journalists, mathematicians, religious figures, sports stars, and a wide range of individuals.

Gale Cengage Learning is a resources that includes 15 e-books titles including American Decades (10 volume set), Encyclopedia of Religion (18 volume set), Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine (six volume set), Schirmer Encyclopedia of Film (four volume set), Encyclopedia of World Biography (23 volume set), Alternative Energy (three volume set), and many more titles.

General Reference Center Gold is a general interest resource that provides magazine and newspaper articles on current events, popular culture, politics, business, industry trends, art, science, sports, hobbies and other popular subjects. This is a great resource for school reports.

Mango is an online language learning system that can help you learn languages like French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Spanish and/or Tagalog. Mango can be used on your computer, tablet, or e-reader and you can download an app to use it on your cell phone.

California Missions e-books are a popular resource for children who are learning about the California Missions.

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Novelist is a wonderful resource for people who love to read. If you like to read a certain author the database will help you find other authors and/or titles which are similar. You can browse by subject, genre, time period, and theme for over 150,000 titles. The resource has reviews, book discussion guides and book lists.

Reference USA is a great source to find business and consumer research. Users can find business and home addresses and phone numbers. Job seekers can research companies and students can do class projects on businesses. If you are starting a new business you can research other companies in the same geographic area. Reference USA can also be used for market research for companies.

The library also has downloadable books through OverDrive and downloadable magazines through Zinio; both resources are available on the Black-Gold website (www.blackgold.org). OverDrive is the digital downloads catalog on the website and Zinio is the big blue icon located on the left side of the website. Grab your library card and your computer, tablet, e-reader and/or cell phone and start learning on any topic imaginable.

The Santa Maria Public Library is open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Friday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The library is closed on Sunday.

Questions may be directed to the Santa Maria Public Library's reference desk at (805) 925-0994.

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Contact Person: Lea Cryor, Librarian II
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