

# Centennial State Libraries

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## Student Research Brochure Available Online for All Types of Libraries

A new brochure with a guide to the research process and how libraries of all types help students achieve, along with student responsibilities, has been created by the Colorado Council for Library Development's Libraries & Student Achievement Committee and the Colorado State Library. The word file is designed to be used by

school, public, and academic libraries in any quantity they wish to print. Download as four-color, print as a two-sided document on a color deskjet or laser printer and fold. Or print in black-and-white. Insert information or logo from your local library. For the file, go to "[Publications](#)".

## **Tax Revolt Takes Aim at a County's Libraries**

An article in the August 20, 2002, issue of the New York Times by Timothy Egan covers a political issue in Kettlefalls, WA. The article reads in part:

One library doubles as a laundry room, where a person can clean a month of dirty clothes and pick up a Churchill biography in a single stop. Another shares a roof with a state liquor store - "books 'n' booze," people call it in jest.

The libraries of Stevens County, bounded by the Canadian border, national forests and two large Indian reservations, are among the most remote in the United States. They are also threatened with extinction.

A group of anti-tax crusaders are trying to shutter them, in an effort that the American Library Association says may be the first aimed at dissolving an entire county library system by referendum. In the last decade, parts of the rural West have had tax revolts against schools, public transportation and new parks. Now comes the first tax revolt against books.

Leaders of the campaign to eliminate the Stevens County Rural Library District say they are tired of paying property taxes for a service that helps people largely in the most out-of-the-way crannies, where a majority of the county's libraries lie. Besides, they say, rural libraries are increasingly obsolete, given the Internet, video outlets and discount bookstores.

Supporters of the initiative say they have gathered 2,800 signatures in a county of about 20,000 registered voters, far more than the 10 percent required to qualify the measure for the November ballot. [Source [New York Times](#). Registration required for online access.]

## **Help Us Find Ourselves Through Public Library Locator Tool**

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Public Library Locator is a tool that allows you to search for a library by name and state. The search yields results on several indicators such as paid full-time staff, operating income, operating expenditures, size of collection, types of services, and access to Internet and public Internet terminals. The data that this tool displays comes from the NCES Public Libraries Survey. This is an annual public library survey that is conducted through the Federal-State Cooperative System for public library data (FSCS). The information in this locator has just been updated with fiscal year 2000 data. In addition to this locator tool the popular NCES Students' Classroom option, "Find Your Library" also reflects

data for 2000. To use the updated [Public Library Locator](#) visit their web site. To use "Find Your Library" visit their web site located in the [NCES Students' Classroom](#).

## **What Happens to All Those Unused E-rate Funds?**

Most of the \$970 million of unused E-rate funds will be returned to telecommunications carriers to stabilize their customers' telephone bills. However, beginning next April, all unused E-rate funds will be carried over to subsequent funding years and distributed as additional funding to schools and libraries. This recent ruling by the FCC was intended to solve the question of "what to do with unused E-rate funds from the first three years of the program?" The ruling is a compromise between the wishes of the telecommunications companies, who would like to see the revenue returned to them, and the education/library groups, who would like the money to be distributed to schools and libraries. (Source: eSchool News, 8/1/2002)

## **Earth Science Week and National Water Monitoring Day 2002**

The problem of the drought is a reality to Coloradans. Librarian Susan Fayad sent along this information from USGS as one way to alert residents about this important issue. The USGS will once again celebrate [Earth Science Week](#), October 13-19, 2002, sponsored by the American Geological Institute and its member organizations. This year's theme, "Water is All Around You," coincides with the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act and another special event, National Water Monitoring Day, October 18, sponsored by [America's Clean Water Foundation](#). Many USGS water offices across the country are planning community-based events for this day. The external [USGS Earth Science Week](#) Web site is for the public and includes links to numerous USGS water resources and related programs, a water IQ quiz, fact sheets, links to participating agencies, and more.

## **Children's Book Writers & Illustrators Present Fall Conference**

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators has lined up outstanding speakers for the fall conference, September 21-22. The theme is "Nurture Your Career in Children's Publishing." Featured speakers include Melanie Cecka, Senior Editor, Viking Children's Books; George Nicholson, agent, Sterling Lord Literistic; Elaine Marie Alphin, author; Harriett Barton, V.P. and Creative Director, HarperCollins Children's Books; Janet Stevens, author/illustrator.

Topics include what agents look for; market needs and niches; evolution of a picture book; current market; submit successfully; rise above rejection. Critiques and portfolio reviews are available. Cost (with continental breakfast, snack and lunch) is \$120 for non-members. The event will be held at Green Center, Colorado School of Mines, Golden. For information: visit the [Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators](#) web site or contact [Gary Raham](#) at or at (970) 568-3557.


## Veterans History Project Launched by Library of Congress

The Library of Congress is gathering materials and participants for its new Veterans History Project. Vets' first-hand accounts, materials, and local archives are ways to get involved. Groups like libraries, colleges, military and civic groups are invited to become partners. Visit the [Veterans History Project](#) online site for information.

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