

Guided Tour

A guide to getting your
started with Britannica



Britannica Digital Learning

Select learning for any level.



Our highly reputable editorial team, expertly create content at three levels to support pupils at every level of education.

Clicking on each of these levels will take you directly to the respective homepage.

"A safe world in which vulnerable children within the care of a Local Authority can still find out the truth without bias or fake news. A place where they can stay safe on the internet whilst still getting the same level of engagement."

Darren Martindale, Wolverhampton Virtual School

Britannica and Virtual Schools



Britannica Digital Learning has been working in partnership with Virtual Schools across the UK since 2014 to help support the challenges that looked after children and young people face when online. We know it is important for you as carers to feel assured that those in your care are using a safe, reliable website and one that they are able to explore independently and unsupervised.

For 250 years, Encyclopaedia Britannica's editorial team have collaborated with experts, scholars and specialists to produce trusted content. Through working closely with authorities, carers, parents and educators we have been able to adapt this for the new generation of digital learners.

Our sources can be accessed online from any device, meaning that we're able to provide support wherever needed.

Foundation Level

Built and designed with younger learners in mind, the engaging and eye-catching colours and images help to grasp and keep their attention. Regularly updated content makes the homepage the perfect place to find unique activities and discussion points.

Which Is It?

The following animals can be found in Australia. Which is NOT a mammal?

platypus flying fox koala black swan

< Previous 3 of 3 Next >

Explore

Articles Images & Videos Biographies

Features Shortcuts

Allow young children the freedom to explore Britannica independently! Use the World Atlas to go on a virtual tour around the world, explore the Animal Kingdom or just enjoy some fun and games in Britannica Fundamentals

Global Awareness

We believe it is crucial for children to gain an understanding of the world in which they live, not only through the content that we provide but also through engagement with current affairs around the world. From the homepage, children have access to the CBBC news headlines so that they regularly discuss and engage with up to date news.

Intermediate Level

Content and format is adapted for a more mature child, however, resources can be used in a similar way - to inspire curiosity, engage in discussion and encourage independent learning. Additional features on the intermediate level include the Daily Buzzword, a tool designed to develop young peoples' vocabulary, and news headlines powered now by the BBC.

Explore



Articles



Images and Videos



Biographies

At a Glance



The U.S. president is arguably the most powerful elected official in the world.



Dinosaurs were the dominant land animals on Earth for nearly 180 million years.



Hispanic Americans, or Latinos, form the largest ethnic minority group in the United States. Learn more about their heritage.



Scientists work to improve our knowledge and understanding of the universe.

Media Browse

Explore a wide range of high quality multimedia resources to support research and develop understanding of a topic. This content varies to cover every corner of interest, from architecture, to life processes or sports.

Biographies

The perfect starting point for young people to begin enquiry into people of a specific era or occupation. From the influential to the infamous, this feature will provide the facts, not the opinions. .

Advanced Level

Content at the Advanced Level is designed to be of relevance to young people in Higher Education. Features such as Flash Facts and In Their Words are designed to develop critical thinking and mature debates. The news headlines are now powered through both BBC and The New York Times so as to allow young people scope to consider different perspectives.

Compare Countries

Compare countries and territories to learn about the people, governments, and terrain of our world.



[Explore Compare Countries](#)

World Atlas



[Explore Atlas](#)

[Tour Europe](#)

Recommended Primary Sources

Find letters, speeches, and other primary source materials.

- [Egyptian Book of the Dead](#)
- [Code of Hammurabi](#)
- [Sayings of Confucius](#)
- [Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian War](#)
- [Magna Carta](#)
- [Marco Polo's Travels](#)
- [Christopher Columbus's Letter to the King and Queen of Spain](#)
- [Niccolò Machiavelli's The Prince](#)

Compare Countries

The Compare Countries feature is powered by the World Bank meaning that these statistics are constantly updated and reliable. Use this feature to support global awareness and understanding of other countries around the world through non-bias, factual information.

Primary Sources

Crucial to any successful research project is evidence of using both Primary and Secondary Sources. Here, young people have direct access to letters, speeches and other primary source material to broaden their research further.

Supporting Young People's Learning

Reading Levels

Support young people by changing the level of an article dependent on their ability. Changing to a lower level means that the text will be shorter and vocabulary more simple.

Multimedia

Young people have access to a large range of high quality images and videos. These can be used to support their understanding and engagement with a topic or for discussion points!

The screenshot shows a search interface for the word "mountain". At the top, it says "You searched for 'mountain'" and "DISPLAYING 1 - 10 OF 1,651 RESULTS.". Below this is a "Reading Level" selector with three options: 1, 2, and 3. Option 2 is currently selected. To the right of the selector is an "Advanced Search" link. Below the selector are tabs for "Articles", "Images", "Videos", and "More". The "Articles" tab is active, showing two results: "mountain (landform)" and "mountain climbing (sport)". Below the articles is a section titled "images related to this search:" with four image thumbnails. The first thumbnail is a video player showing a mountain range. Below the images is another article result: "Elburz Mountains (mountain range in Iran)".

Literacy Support

We have put tools in place to support developing and reluctant readers. Use the Read Aloud tool to highlight the text whilst a neutral voice guides the young person through the text. Next, double click a word for the dictionary definition of that word!

Translation Tool

Support your young person's English language development by translating content into their first language and then hovering over the translation to view the original text.

The screenshot shows an article page for the word "mountain". The title "mountain" is displayed in a large font at the top. Below the title is a navigation bar with a "Reading Level" selector (options 1, 2, 3) and a "Teacher" tab. Below the navigation bar is a toolbar with several icons: a right arrow, a star, a document, a speech bubble, a play button, a plus sign, and a minus sign. The article content includes an "Introduction" section with a video player showing a mountain range. The text describes a mountain as a landform that rises prominently above its surroundings. Below the text is a small video player with a play button and a timestamp of 1:24. At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice: "Created and produced by OA International. © OA International, 2010. All rights reserved. www.oa-international.com".

Challenging Young People's Learning

Reading Levels

Young people can also challenge themselves by increasing the reading level of a text. This will mean that the content becomes more details and vocabulary more complex.

Related

Encourage young people to expand their interest and develop their understanding by clicking on the related tab! Doing this will take them to further resources on a topic.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

solar system

Reading Level 1 2 3

Did You Know?
People once thought that everything in the solar system orbits around Earth.

Introduction

As the Sun rushes through space at a speed of roughly 150 miles (240 kilometers) per second, it takes many smaller objects along with it. These include the planets and dwarf planets; their moons; and small bodies such as asteroids, comets, and meteoroids. All these objects orbit, or revolve around, the Sun. Together, the Sun and all its smaller companions are known as the solar system. The solar system itself orbits the center of the Milky Way Galaxy, completing one revolution about every 225 million years.

Article Images & Videos Related Teacher

Daily Buzzword

Support the development of young people's vocabulary by encouraging them to take note of the Daily Buzzword. They could begin to build their own vocabulary banks as a daily activity at home.

Daily Buzzword

time capsule noun TYME-KAP-sul

What does it mean?
1. a container holding historical records or objects representative of current culture that is placed (as in a cornerstone) for preservation until discovery by some future age

How do you use it?
Each class in our school is putting together a booklet to place in a time capsule that will be built into the wall of the new elementary school.

Can you Guess?

Where is the highest waterfall in the world?

Where is the "Roof of the World"?

When does a total eclipse take place?

Why is the sky blue?

Independent Study

The homepage provides young people with constant information and tasks. Encourage independent research and exploration of these resources to help inspire their natural curiosity.

Safeguarding Young People

Safe

Britannica is an educational resource. Therefore, all information found within the site is non-bias and non-political. This means that young people can browse safely without seeing or reading anything inappropriate.

Reliable

The content within Britannica is constantly being updated (on average, every twenty minutes!) Therefore, you can be assured that the information they are accessing is 100% accurate and reliable.

Image Quest

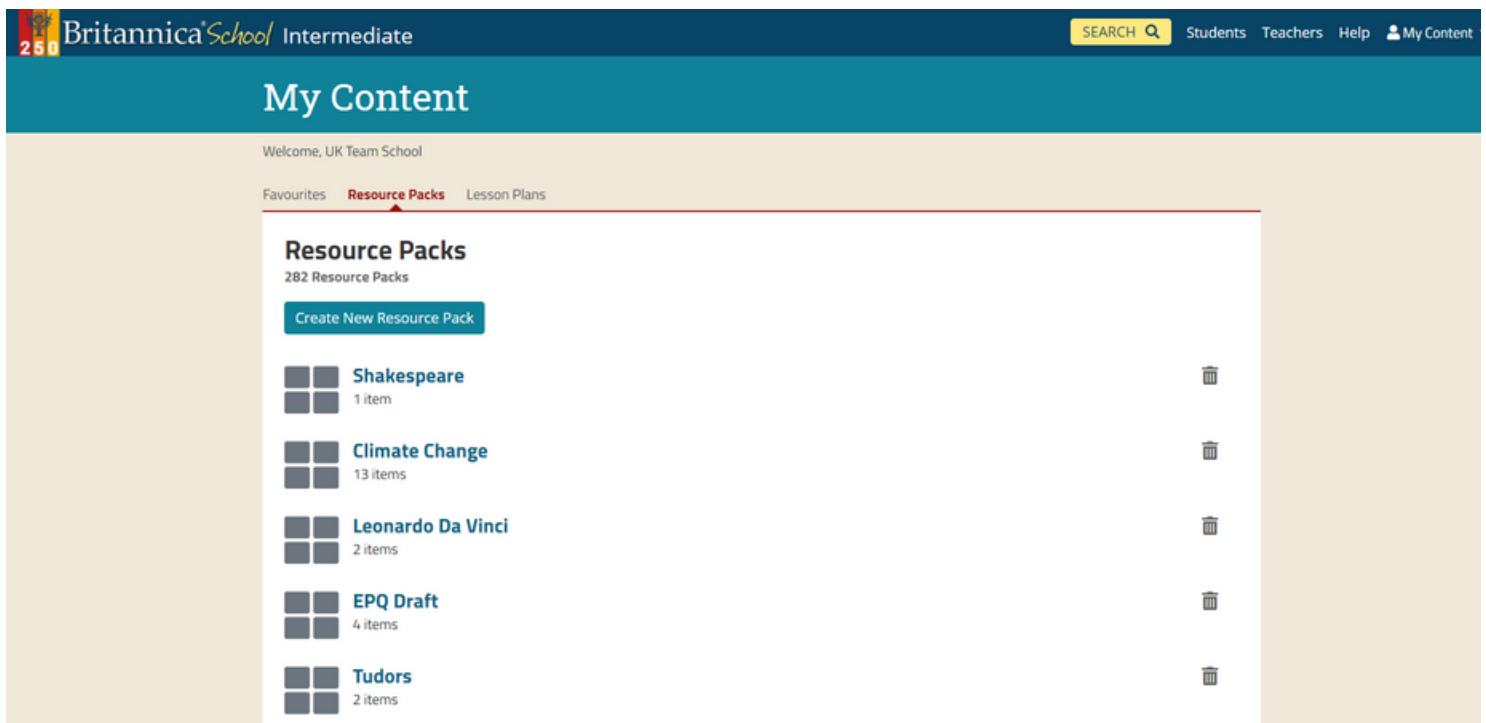
Finding appropriate images online can sometimes be very difficult! However, access to ImageQuest. This means that they have access to millions of educationally appropriate images that are also safe and free to download.

The screenshot shows the Britannica School Advanced interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'Students', 'Teachers', 'Help', and 'Sign In'. The main content area is titled 'New & Revised Articles' and features four article thumbnails: 'poetry', 'silicon', 'seawater', and 'sedimentary rock'. Below this is a 'More New & Revised Articles' button. The 'News of the Day' section is divided into two columns: 'NEWS FROM NEW YORK TIMES' and 'NEWS FROM BBC NEWS', each with a list of recent news items.

The screenshot shows the Britannica IMAGEQUEST website. The header includes the 'Britannica IMAGEQUEST' logo and navigation links for 'Project Ideas', 'Help', and 'My Images'. The main banner features the text 'Millions of rights-cleared images from one trusted site.' and a search bar with the placeholder 'What would you like to see today?'. Below the banner is a grid of six images of frogs. The bottom section contains four navigation options: 'Get a jump start', 'Learn with projects', 'See what's new', and 'Our collections', each with a brief description and a corresponding icon.

My Content

Encourage young people to set themselves up with their own personal My Content area. Here, their teachers, carers and they themselves are able to view their favoured content and organise it into Resource Packs. To favourite any resource, simply click on the star that appears on the tool bar. Favourited content will then appear in the My Content section.



The screenshot shows the 'My Content' interface for Britannica School Intermediae. The top navigation bar includes 'SEARCH', 'Students', 'Teachers', 'Help', and 'My Content'. The main header is 'My Content' with a sub-header 'Welcome, UK Team School'. Below this are tabs for 'Favourites', 'Resource Packs' (which is selected), and 'Lesson Plans'. The 'Resource Packs' section displays a list of packs with their respective item counts and a 'Create New Resource Pack' button. The packs listed are:

Resource Pack	Number of Items
Shakespeare	1 item
Climate Change	13 items
Leonardo Da Vinci	2 items
EPQ Draft	4 items
Tudors	2 items

How should young people use Resource Packs?

Resource Packs are a great way for young people to organise revision for exams. They can use the notes section to summarise what they have learnt from a resource. They can also use Resource Packs to organise research on a particular topic! They can then share their Resource Pack with teachers or carers!

How should carers use Resource Packs?

To support with your young person's Personal Education Plan, we would encourage carers to make up a Resource Pack and pose questions to them within the notes section. This is a great tool for young people that are reluctant readers and who find independent research difficult.

Notes



To learn more about scheduling, contact us:
enquiries@eb.co.uk | 020 7500 7800 | Britannica.co.uk