



Ministry-Licensed Software Profiles

Jen Weening





Learn360

Video Streaming Service

Overview

Learn360

- Massive library of over 100,000 video resources for teacher and student use
- Searchable by state and provincial curriculum standards, including grade, subject area, and overall and specific expectations
- Browsable by topic or subject

Search By Standards:

Standard Set: Grade: Subject:

Use the options above to select the educational standards that you want to view. Once you make your selections, click the search button to view all of the content in Learn360 that correlates to that specific standard. You can also set your default standard to view all of the content in Learn360 that correlates to that specific standard. You can also set your default subject area by changing your user preferences.

Our content is correlated by EdGate Correlation Services, the market leader in aligning educational materials to state and provincial standards.

Subject:












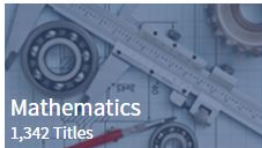
- Select a Subject
- English Language Learners
- Health and PE**
- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

Subjects supported

Learn360

- All
- Ability to search by Ontario (and other) Curriculum Standards:
 - English Language Learners
 - Health & PE
 - Language Arts
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Social Studies

Browse Subjects 1-4 of 19 View Less ▲

 <p>Arts 3,928 Titles</p>	 <p>Biology 1,877 Titles</p>	 <p>Careers & Job Search 3,011 Titles</p>	 <p>Earth Science 862 Titles</p>
 <p>English & Language Arts 2,098 Titles</p>	 <p>Environmental Science 883 Titles</p>	 <p>Family & Consumer Sciences 730 Titles</p>	 <p>Geography 1,009 Titles</p>
 <p>Government 604 Titles</p>	 <p>Guidance & Counseling 2,052 Titles</p>	 <p>Health 2,335 Titles</p>	 <p>Mathematics 1,342 Titles</p>

Grade Levels supported

Learn360

- All
- The “Search by Standard” feature allows teachers to find videos relating to specific or overall curriculum expectations for every grade from K-12 in a variety of subject areas
- I did not search every subject area for every grade level, but tried a variety of searches, including the following:
 - Kindergarten › Mathematics
 - Grade 3 › Science
 - Grade 7 › Social Studies
 - Grade 10 › Language Arts (English)
- Results were not found for every specific curriculum expectation I searched but there were certainly a variety of grade-specific, subject-specific results found

Grade Levels supported

Learn360

Results from a
search for
Grade 7 >
Social Studies
> HIS.A

(Note that not all
video titles are
specifically related to
the curriculum
expectation, so
perhaps the “search
by standard” feature
is not all that
accurate.)

Videos (20)

Sorted by: **Newest to Oldest** ▼

[Save Search](#) [Export All Titles](#)



Part 2: The War Begins 05:36

(SEGMENT) From Title: The Beanbody Histories: The American Revolution, Parts 2 & 3

Review changing colonist attitudes and the First Continental Congress. Learn about colonial views to...

© 2013 Colman Communications , Grade(s): 3 - 5, 6 - 8

[Share](#) [Add to](#) [Standards](#)



The Beanbody Histories: The American Revolution, Parts 2 & 3

21:12

SEGMENTS IN THIS VIDEO ▼

Mr. Beanbody takes Jeffrey and Lilly to 1775-1781, where they learn about about the Battles of Conco...

© 2013 Colman Communications , Grade(s): 3 - 5, 6 - 8

[Share](#) [Add to](#) [Standards](#)

Curriculum Expectations

Learn360

- As this is a content library, *Learn360* houses lots of content to support subject-specific lessons in a variety of subject areas and grade levels.
- *Learn360* is not particularly interactive, so it cannot really serve to get students to show their learning. Instead, it can be an enhancement to a teacher's lesson or can be used to provide additional resources or to "flip" a lesson.

Other features

Learn360

Please note that I have not been able to test these features as I do not have access to the resource through my school.

- New content is added regularly
- Videos are available in multiple formats for online streaming and/or downloading
- Districts/schools can customize their Learn360 site to provide access to additional previously owned media
- Ability to upload classes and create assignments directly on the site
- Administrators can push content directly to users or classes

Drawbacks

Learn360

- French content not available
- “Search by Standards” is not entirely accurate (perhaps video tags are not actually checked against provincial standards?)
- “Search by Standards” covers only core subjects, while other subjects such as Art or Careers are represented, but only when browsing or searching by subject
- Another Infobase database - *Curriculum Video on Demand* - which my school’s library subscribes to, contains a lot more content but with the exact same interface. It appears that *Learn360* is a smaller version of the *Curriculum Video on Demand* database.

Verdict & Application

Learn360

- This could certainly be a useful extra resource for teachers. The ability to download videos would be valuable in a school where the internet connection may not always be reliable. The ability to link to videos on the site could make this an excellent extra source for content when flipping a class.
- The lack of interactivity with the videos means that *Learn360* is more of an “academic YouTube” minus the cute puppy videos. Students can watch the videos but any interaction with the videos must take place outside of the interface. I can see it being a useful resource for a “Hyperdoc”-type of assignment, although I do wonder about direct access to *Learn360* via a hyperlink: if a school has this resource through the ministry, would every student need a login and password to access the database, or would it use IP authentication and students would have to access it on school networks only?



Britannica School

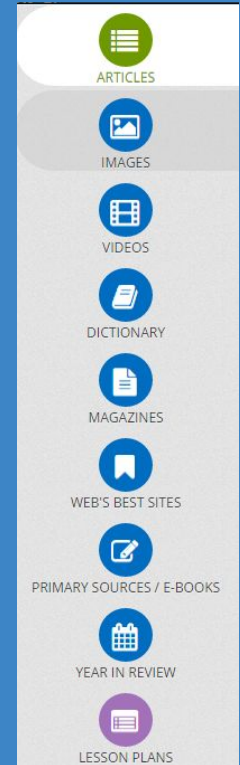
Online Encyclopedia

Overview

Britannica School

- Comprehensive collection of encyclopedia articles, magazine & newspaper articles, and multimedia resources
- User-friendly with tons of great features to help students do research more effectively
- Most articles are available at three reading levels: elementary, middle, & high school
- Each of the three sites (Elementary, Middle, High School) has its own unique age-appropriate look and feel

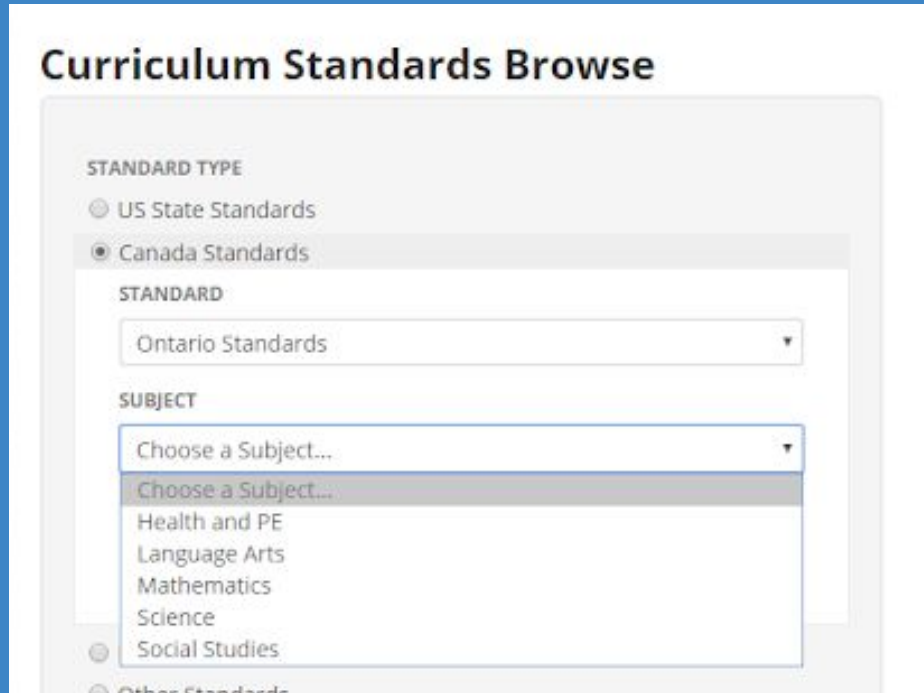
[Download a comprehensive overview of Britannica School here.](#)



Subjects supported

Britannica School

- All
- Ability to browse for content by Ontario (and other) Curriculum Standards:
 - Health & PE
 - Language Arts
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Social Studies
- Particularly valuable as a the first source in a research-related task

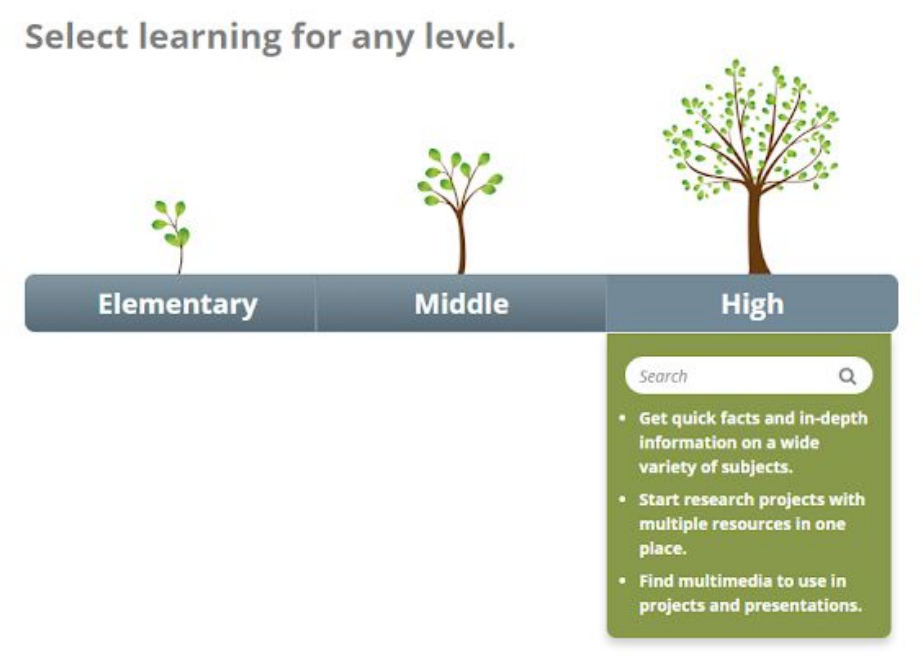



Grade Levels supported

Britannica School

- All
- The “Search by Standard” feature allows teachers to find content relating to specific or overall curriculum expectations for every grade from K-12 in a variety of subject areas
- Search by grade level for age-appropriate articles and resources
- Each site has its own unique age-appropriate interface with graphics, featured articles, and interactive activities

Select learning for any level.



Elementary	Middle	High
		<input type="text" value="Search"/>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get quick facts and in-depth information on a wide variety of subjects.• Start research projects with multiple resources in one place.• Find multimedia to use in projects and presentations.

Grade Levels supported

Britannica School

My Britannica 

Do You Know?



Some mongooses are famed for their ability to fight and kill what type of animal?

[komodo dragons](#) [praying mantises](#)

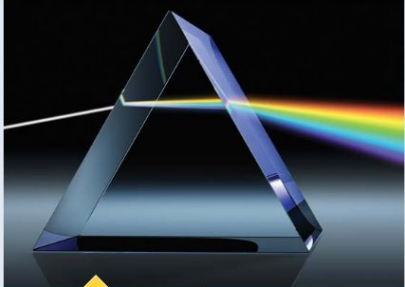
[poisonous frogs](#) [venomous snakes](#)

[ARTICLES](#) [MEDIA](#) [WORLD ATLAS](#) [COMPARE COUNTRIES](#) [ANIMAL KINGDOM](#) [FOR PREK-2 STUDENTS](#)

[Show More](#)

Britannica Learning Zone

The Elementary interface



Prism

White light is a mixture of all the colors of the rainbow. A prism breaks up white light into its component colors by refracting, or bending, each color a different amount.

Explore other science and math media:
[light](#) • [optics](#) • [physics](#)

[SCIENCE IN PICTURES](#) [IN THE NEWS](#) [ON THIS DAY](#) [IN THEIR WORDS](#)

[ARTICLE BROWSE](#) [BIOGRAPHIES](#) [COMPARE COUNTRIES](#) [MEDIA BROWSE](#)

[WORLD ATLAS](#) [CANADA IN FOCUS](#) [MY CONTENT](#)

EXPLORE BIOGRAPHIES

Read more about the lives of the important, the influential, and the infamous.


Era

Cultural Associatio...

Known for

Gender

BEHIND THE NEWS



©Georgios Kallidas/Fotoira Michel Euler/AP Images Greg Mumford

The High School interface

Curriculum Expectations

Britannica School

- As this is a content library, *Britannica School* houses lots of content to support subject-specific lessons and research tasks in a variety of subject areas and grade levels.

Results from a
search for
Grade 10 ›
Science

(blue text in image
are links to
Britannica articles &
lessons)

SNC2D.A.SE. — Specific Expectations

SNC2D.A1. — Scientific Investigation Skills: Throughout this course, students will:

SNC2D.A1.1. — h: Initiating and Planning [IP]: Formulate scientific questions about observed relationships, ideas, problems, and/or issues, make predictions, and/or formulate hypotheses to focus inquiries or research

🔍1 BRITANNICA ARTICLE CORRELATED TO THIS STANDARD:

[pseudoscience](#)

📖1 EDGATE LESSON:

[Lesson: Introduction To Scientific Method](#)

SNC2D.A1.2. — h: Initiating and Planning [IP]: Select appropriate instruments (e.g., a microscope, laboratory glassware, an optical bench) and materials (e.g., prepared slides, an aquarium, lenses, pH paper) for particular inquiries

🔍6 BRITANNICA ARTICLES CORRELATED TO THIS STANDARD:

[caliper](#)

[level](#)

[meter](#)

[micrometer](#)

[microscope](#)

[surveying](#)

Curriculum Expectations

Britannica School

Example of curriculum expectations from the Grade 9 Inquiry & Research strand of the Information Studies (1998)
“curriculum” *(not an official curriculum document but the guiding scope and sequence for libraries)*

By the end of grade 9, students will:

- locate a variety of appropriate resources from a variety of sources
- select information appropriate to needs using a variety of strategies

Example of curriculum expectations from SNC2D (Grade 10 Science, Academic)

Throughout this course, students will:

- A1: Demonstrate scientific investigation skills (related to both inquiry and research) in the four areas of skills (initiating and planning, performing and recording, analysing and interpreting, and communicating)
- D2: Investigate various natural and human factors that influence Earth’s climate and climate change

- Article tools:
 - Clickable table of contents for longer articles
 - Citation assistance
 - Accessibility tools: have the article read aloud to you; translate the article into one of 50 languages; adjust font size for ease of reading
 - “Double Click Dictionary”: double-click on any word in an article to view a dictionary definition of the word and hear an audio recording of its pronunciation
 - Links to “Related articles” and the “Web’s Best Sites” on the topic
 - Internal hyperlinks within articles link to other *Britannica School* articles
- Tools for educators include the ability to create and save lessons, as well as search by curriculum standards

Other features

Britannica School

- Britannica Image Quest
 - Millions of rights-cleared images for student and teacher use
 - Ability to download, save, and cite images

“Access the most in-depth compilation of curriculum-relevant images right at your fingertips. Over three million searchable images are available from 59 leading collections, including The Bridgeman Art Gallery, Dorling Kindersley Images, Getty Images, the National Portrait Gallery of London, and the National Geographic Society—all are rights-cleared for educational, non-commercial use. ImageQuest supports any subject area without putting users at risk of infringing on copyrights or finding inappropriate images in their search results.”

The screenshot shows the Britannica ImageQuest website. At the top, the logo reads "Britannica IMAGEQUEST™" with a search icon, "Project Ideas", "Help", and "My Images" links. Below the header, a banner states "Millions of rights-cleared images from one trusted site." with a search bar containing the placeholder text "What would you like to see today?". The main content area features a grid of image thumbnails: a landscape with mountains and a river, a historical scene of people working on a machine, a black and white portrait of a man, a street scene with buildings, a close-up of a building's facade, a woman and child, a quote "ImageQuest has changed my life." attributed to an "Illinois librarian", and a scene of a building being destroyed. At the bottom, four navigation options are listed with icons: "Get a jump start" (kangaroo icon), "Learn with projects" (briefcase icon), "See what's new" (sun icon), and "Our collections" (image icon). Below these are links to "BROWSE OUR ALBUMS: Fashion and Art, Environment, Libraries Around the World", "FEATURED PROJECT IDEA: Make your own image dictionary", "QUICK TOUR: Learn about the NEW ImageQuest", and "FEATURED COLLECTION: National Portrait Gallery".

Drawbacks

Britannica School

- French content not available

Verdict & Application

Britannica School

- As a teacher librarian, this is one of my “go-to” resources. Its ease of use and the relevance and authority of its information makes it a perfect alternative to Wikipedia to present to students, and they are quite open to it because it is so simple to use.
- Students love the “Cite” feature, which prepares their Works Cited entry for them.
- I have not used the Elementary interface before as I work primarily with Middle & High School students, but it too looks easy to use and fun for students.

I highly recommend this resource to all teachers who are looking to have their students complete research. It provides an excellent, academic alternative to open Web browsing (i.e. Google search) and has many tools to make using it even easier than using a random web site or, worse still, Wikipedia! 😊