

ADINET (Advanced Information Network of Libraries in Gujarat)
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PAUSE & PONDER

*“Without libraries what have we?
We have no past and no future.”*

– Ray Bradbury

Open Educational resources (OER)

Open Educational Resources are teaching, learning and research materials in any medium – digital or otherwise – that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits no-cost access, use, adaptation and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions. (This definition of OER is based on [William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Open Educational Resources.](#))

In some cases, that means you can download a resource and share it with colleagues and students. In other cases, you may be able to download a resource, edit it in some way, and then re-post it as a remixed work. How do you know your options? OER often have a [Creative Commons license](#) or other permission to let you know how the material may be used, reused, adapted, and shared.

Why use OER?

Open Educational Resources give educators the ability to adapt instructional resources to the individual needs of their students, to ensure that resources are up-to-date, and to ensure that cost is not a barrier to accessing high-quality standards-aligned resources. Educators can tag, rate, and review materials, and share what works for them.

What is the difference between free and open resources?

Open Educational Resources are and always will be free in digital form, but not all free resources are OER. Free resources may be temporarily free or may be restricted from use at some time in the future (including by the addition of fees to access those resources). Moreover, free resources, which may not be modified, adapted, or redistributed without express permissions from the copyright holder, are not OER.

(Source: <https://oertx-help.highered.texas.gov/support/solutions/articles/42000078845-introduction-to-oer>)

If you wish to learn more about OER, here is an information on a free OER Course “Texas Learn OER.” (<https://oertx.highered.texas.gov/courses/texas-learn-oer>). It focuses on defining OER, explaining the rationale for OER adoption and use, explaining the differences between the six currently available Creative Commons licenses, identifying repositories and other resources for finding relevant OER, using tools and criteria to evaluate OER, recognizing steps and associated criteria for adapting and creating OER with proper attribution and licensing, and creating an OER, etc.

Some other useful websites are

OER Commons

<https://www.oercommons.org/>

OERTX Repository

<https://oertx.highered.texas.gov/>

Open Textbook Library

<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/>

Teaching Commons

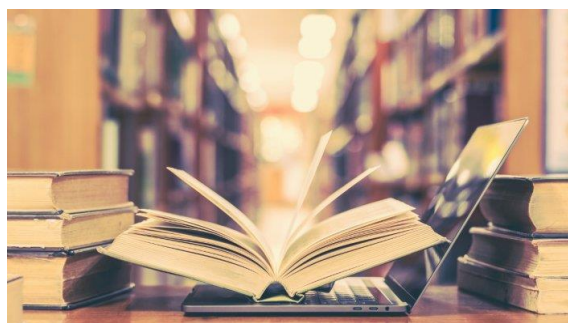
<https://teachingcommons.us/>

(Input from Ms. Shweta Shroff)

Readers Please Note

Follow the “Title” of each News to continue to Read further

Happy reading with human libraries



When the pressures of the future threaten us, we need the reassurance of the past. I often find myself talking to my parents, older relatives and friends when the currents of mainstream life get too strong. More often than not, these conversations bring the distant shores a little closer.

I've come to realise that people are not ordinary. The longer they tread in the journey of life, the more interesting, significant and extraordinary they become. The wisdom that is born from reliving and sharing these experiences is the most valuable gift one human being can give to another.

Thus the concept of a human library was born...

Source: [Deccan Herald, 08 Nov 2021](#)

Malfunctioning ACs put state library's ancient texts at risk



The airconditioners at the Krishnadas Shama state central library, which had malfunctioned nearly two years ago, are yet to be made fully functional on all floors. This has posed a risk to the centuries-old texts — some dating to the 16th century — housed here.

The ancient texts and manuscripts require non-humid conditions for optimum preservation. “The building was built with air-conditioning to maintain a uniform temperature throughout the day for the preservation of books. Now, however, the ACs function only on a few floors. The last floor has books that date back to 400 years ago and yet there is no functional air-conditioning,” sources from the library said...

Source: [Times of India, 08 Nov 2021](#)

Karnataka Village Libraries Revolutionising Learning in the Time of Covid



Off the dusty tracks in Beedi village in Karnataka's Belagavi, a colourful building with images of animals and grasslands beckons the young and old to enter its portals and sit around its well — an open-air library that is both welcoming and inspiring has been set up by gram panchayats. Indeed, it is one of the first attempts to revolutionise the idea of rural libraries

that has taken off in 5,622 gram panchayats in Karnataka today.

With schools having remained shut almost a year and a half, children across Karnataka could have become disconnected with learning easily. But over the last few months, the rural development department has asked panchayats to step up and step in where schools could not...

Source: [News18, 07 Nov 2021](#)

Library considers adding everyday items to its collection



A “library of things” such as musical instruments, cookware and electronics could become part of the Cariboo Regional District’s libraries.

The possibility of lending popular and useful items besides books and DVDs is already being done in bigger cities such as Vancouver, Edmonton and Toronto and has recently popped up on the CRD’s radar. CRD manager of Library Services Wanda Davis said adding new lending items may be on the horizon here as libraries continue to evolve, although this likely wouldn’t happen until at least 2023...

Source: [The Williams Lake Tribune, 07 Nov 2021](#)

On Diwali, tribal women gift library to kids in Odisha's Bonda hills



The ‘Bada Didis’ have already earned a lot of respect and admiration ever since they set up the first roadside open library near the Arts College in Malkangiri. A year since the endeavour which has endeared a group of tribal women to locals, the ‘Bada Didis’ extended the library facility to the remote Bonda hills, some 60 km from Malkangiri...

Source: [The Times of India, 06 Nov 2021](#)

India Can Have Its Own Open Access Digital Publishing Platform



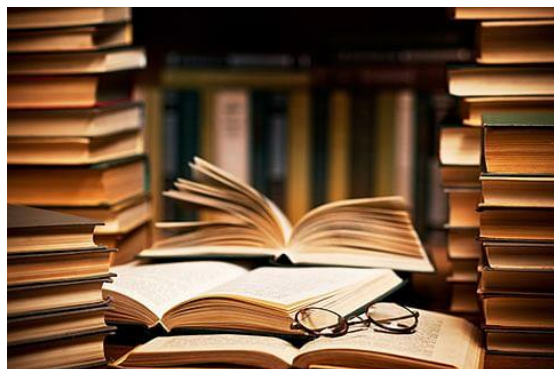
Knowledge sharing is the key to research success, and scientific journals play a crucial role here. The concept of scientific publishing took root around four centuries ago, through noble intentions and the sponsorships of various learned societies.

But from around the 1950s, Robert Maxwell and others have turned academic publishing more broadly into

a principally money-spinning enterprise. Today, the academic publishing industry operates in a concentrated market replete with big players, and is predominantly revenue-driven...

Source: [The Wire, 06 Nov 2021](#)

Reading for wisdom and solace



Zulkarnain Lateef, 28—a physiotherapist by chance and an avid reader by choice—sits back late in the evening and reads. Reading is more than just knowledge and a hobby for Zulkarnain. It is beyond superficial services for him. “Reading is a part of behavioural modification for me. It helps me to avoid being jaded, cynical and pessimistic” Lateef says with confidence evident on his stubbled face. Not only Lateef, for every passionate reader out there, reading is also a way of life that has been profiting them in ways unthinkable. For some, flipping through is fun and for others, reading is mandatory. Some readers scan for knowledge while others read for a cure. A few bibliomaniacs look for inferring the world of others and some readers look for therapy to find solace. You cannot travel the whole world, so we made books. Flipping through a book is like travelling to a place and living there without physically serving the same...

Source: [Greater Kashmir, 04 Nov 2021](#)

Careers in Library Science: Where to study and the new-age skills of a librarian



Have you ever thought of connecting knowledge, information and people—all at once? Then Library Science can be your ticket to an exciting career. You could make use of digital technology, social media and printed matter to help people access the information they are looking for in libraries and archives all over the globe...

Source: [The Telegraph, 30 Oct 2021](#)

Open and affordable resources around the library



Milner Library is your hub for all repository questions whether they be about open textbooks, affordable resources for research and projects, or assistance making your own work

more accessible. Milner's Scholarly Communication Team works hard to reduce the costs of academic materials for users as well as provide freely accessible information to all.

ISU ReD, Illinois State University's institutional repository, continues to be used by faculty, staff, and students—even ISU's new president. More than 10,000 items have been added to ISU ReD with more than 1 million downloads...

Source: [Illinois State University, 25 Oct 2021](#)

Delivering the joy of reading books



Techie on a mission to distribute 1 million books, magazines to schools and libraries

“Children who start reading early understand situations better and they are able to analyse the pros and cons as well,” says M. Satish Babu, a techie who has embarked on a mission to inculcate reading habit among children by distributing free magazines, comics and books of other genres to schools and libraries in Andhra Pradesh and a few other States...

Source: [The Hindu, 23 Oct 2021](#)

I Set Out to Build the Next Library of Alexandria. Now I Wonder: Will There Be Libraries in 25 Years?



When I started the Internet Archive 25 years ago, I focused our non-profit library on digital collections: preserving web pages, archiving television news, and digitizing books. The Internet Archive was seen as innovative and unusual. Now all libraries are increasingly electronic, and necessarily so. To fight disinformation, to serve readers during the pandemic, and to be relevant to 21st-century learners, libraries must become digital.

But just as the Web increased people's access to information exponentially, an opposite trend has evolved. Global media corporations—emboldened by the expansive copyright laws they helped craft and the emerging technology that reaches right into our reading devices—are exerting absolute control over digital information. These two conflicting forces—towards unfettered availability and completely walled access to information—have defined the last 25 years of the Internet. How we handle this ongoing clash will define our civic discourse in the next 25 years. If we fail to forge the right path, publishers' business models could eliminate one of the great tools for democratizing society: our independent libraries...

Source: [Time, 22 Oct 2021](#)

**This issue has been compiled by the
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