

Home School User Guide

North Tonawanda Public Library Resources

How to use this guide: Listed below are subjects that need to be covered according to the home school guidelines for NYS. If you have any questions, please refer to your local Home School organization.

At the North Tonawanda Public Library and throughout the NIOGA system, we have many free resources for your children. We have organized them according to subject. Each subject shows where to look on the shelves for books, a short list of few books (there are many more), some free databases that the library provides for citizens of Niagara, Orleans, and Genesee Counties, websites that have free things to help your kids learn, and some ideas for activities.

Here are some great databases provided by NIOGA for your kids to use (Please access these databases by visiting nioga.org and then clicking on the [databases link](#) on the left-hand side). **Britannica School and Gale General OneFile have information for all parts of the curriculum**, even though we haven't included them in every list:

[Britannica School](#): Has separate sections for elementary, middle, and high school kids with games, art projects, and more to make learning fun. It also has lesson plans for adults to use with kids!

[Britannica Escolar](#): Tiene secciones distintas para niños de primaria, secundaria, y preparatoria con juegos, proyectos de arte, y más para hacer divertido el aprender. También tiene planes de lecciones que los adultos pueden usar con los niños.

[Gale General OneFile](#): A one-stop source for news and periodical articles on a wide range of topics: business, computers, current events, economics, education, environmental issues, health care, hobbies, humanities, law, literature and art, politics, science, social science, sports, technology, and many general interest topics. Millions of full-text articles, many with images.

[Gale in Context: Opposing Viewpoints](#): Perfect for reports and looking into current hot topics, it contains contextual information and opinions on hundreds of social issues. It features continuously updated viewpoint articles, topic overviews, full-text magazines, academic journals, news articles, primary source documents, statistics, images, videos, audio files and links to vetted websites organized into a user-friendly portal experience.

[Novelist Plus](#): Find book recommendations here. You can search by a variety of factors, including age level, lexile level, things you like in books (plot, characters, tone, etc), and author/title read-alikes.

9 th -12 th grade	
Patriotism and Citizenship	
Library Area	Non-fiction: 320-325.73
Books	<p><i>Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card</i> by Sara Saedi—Biography Saedi</p> <p><i>Campaigns and Elections: What Everyone Needs to Know</i> by Dennis W. Johnson—324.6097 John</p> <p><i>The Handy American Government Answer Book</i> by Gina Misiroglu—320.473 Misi</p> <p><i>Uncle Sam Presents the Great American Documents Volume I: 1620-1830</i> by Ruth Ashby—AGN 973 Ashb (found in the graphic novel section)</p> <p><i>Drawing the Vote: An Illustrated Guide to Voting in America</i> by Tommy Jenkins—AGN 324.6097 Jenk (found in the graphic novel section)</p> <p><i>Votes of Confidence: A Young Person's Guide to American Elections</i> by Jeff Fleischer—324.6097 Flei</p> <p><i>What You Need to Know About Voting and Why</i> by Kim Wehle—324.6097 Wehl</p>

Databases & Websites	Random House Guide – Promoting Active Citizenship: http://www.randomhouse.com/highschool/RHI_magazine/active_citizens/ National Archives Docs Teach-Rights in America: https://www.docsteach.org/topics/rights
Activities	Research the process of becoming a citizen of the United States. Volunteer to help a local group that offers classes for those preparing to become citizens. Attend a citizenship ceremony. Most towns have a night court OR scheduled Board of Education meetings - try to go for a visit. Pick an issue of interest and then write one of your elected officials with your view. You usually get a letter back. Watch a State of the Union address and then discuss about what it was about.
Health and Substance Abuse ½ Credit	
Library Area	Non-fiction: 610-618, 641.-641.8654
Books	<i>Being a Teen: Everything Teen Girls & Boys Should Know About Relationships, Sex, Love, Health, Identity & More</i> by Jane Fonda—613.951 Fond <i>Eat! The Quick-Look Cookbook</i> by Gabriela Scolik—641.5 Scol <i>Poisoned Water: How the Citizens of Flint, Michigan, Fought For Their Lives and Warned the Nation</i> by Candy J. Cooper—615.9256 Coop <i>The Stress Survival Guide for Teens</i> by Jeffrey Bernstein—305.235 Bern <i>What Does Consent Really Mean?</i> by Pete and Thalia Wallis—YAGN 306.7083 Wall <i>Who is Using Opioids & Opiates?</i> by Xina Uhl—613.83 Uhl <i>You: The Owner’s Manual for Teens</i> by Michael F. Roizen –613.0433 Roiz <i>Your Brain Needs a Hug</i> by Rae Earl—616.89 Earl
Databases & Websites	Center for disease control : www.CDC.gov Medline Plus – https://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/teenhealth.html Mayo clinic tween and teen health : http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/tween-and-teen-health/basics/tween-and-teen-health/hlv-20049436 Gale in Context: Opposing Viewpoints: Through the NIOGA databases page
Activities	Look for health fairs and classes that teens and grownups can attend together Make a healthy relationship checklist Keep a mental health journal where you detail your moods and activities
Highway Safety and Traffic Regulations (Including Bike Safety)	
Library Area	Non-fiction: 796.6
Books	<i>If There is no Tomorrow</i> by Jennifer Armentrout - Fiction <i>Wrecked</i> by E.R. Frank
Databases & Websites	DMV for NYS manual for driving http://dmv.ny.gov/driver-license/drivers-manual-practice-tests Find the right bike helmet : http://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/bicycle-helmet.html
Activities	Take a defensive driving course Take a look under the hood – Ask a local mechanic if they will show you around under the hood while they inspect your car

Fire and Arson Prevention and Safety	
Library Area	Non-fiction: 363.3497-363.379; 364.1642, individuals fires in 900s
Books	<p><i>Triangle: The Fire That Changed America</i> by David Von Drehle –974.7104 Vond</p> <p><i>Master the Firefighter Exam</i> by Arco—Test Guides Firefighter</p> <p><i>Memoirs of a Volunteer Firefighter</i> by Jason Borton—363.3709 Bort</p>
Databases & Websites	<p>American Red Cross: Home Fire Safety- https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/fire/prevent-home-fire.html</p> <p>US fire Administration - https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/</p>
Activities	<p>Walk through your house and make sure it is up to fire code</p> <p>Go camping and practice safe fire building and extinguishing</p>
English 4 Credits	
Library Area	Non-fiction: 011-016; 028-029; 800s
Books	<p><i>The 100 Best Poems of All Time</i> edited by Leslie Pockell–811 Oneh</p> <p><i>1,000 Books to Read Before You Die: A Life-Changing List</i> by James Mustich Jr.—011.73 Must</p> <p><i>Book of Books</i> by Jessica Allen–016.8088 Book</p> <p><i>Bowie’s Bookshelf: The Hundred Books That Changed David Bowie’s Life</i> by John O’Connell—028 Ocon</p> <p><i>Dear Ally, How Do You Write a Book?</i> by Ally Carter—808.02 Cart</p> <p><i>How to Write Successfully in High School and College</i> by Barbara Lenmark—808.02 Lenm</p> <p><i>Image & Imagination: Ideas and Inspiration for Teen Writers</i> by Nick Healy and Kristen McCurry—808 Heal</p> <p><i>MLA Handbook</i> by Modern Language Association of America—808.027 Mla</p> <p><i>The Shakespeare Book</i> by Stanley Wells—822.33 Shake</p> <p><i>This is Not a Writing Manual</i> by Kerri Majors—808.02 Majo</p> <p>Reference collection: <i>Drama for Students, Novels for Students, Shakespeare for Students, Short Stories for Students, Poetry for Students, Magill’s Survey of American Literature</i></p>
Databases & Websites	<p>NaNoWriMo’s Young Writers Program http://ywp.nanowrimo.org/</p> <p>Teen Ink: www.teenink.com/</p> <p>Underlined: https://www.getunderlined.com/create/</p> <p>Libby and Hoopla (both apps available free with your library card)</p> <p>Novelist</p> <p>Project Gutenberg , public domain books, plays, poems and short stories: gutenberg.org/</p>
Activities	<p>Study a play and then see it live</p> <p>Participate in a poetry slam</p> <p>Mentor younger readers</p>

Social Studies 4 Credits	
Library Area	American History: 973, Participation in Government: 320-326, 328, World History 900s, Economics: 330s, Biographies
Books	<p>American History:</p> <p><i>Don't Know Much About History</i> by Kenneth Davis—973 Davi</p> <p><i>A People's History of the United States</i> by Howard Zinn—973 Zinn</p> <p><i>Smithsonian American Women: Women's History From the National Collection</i> by Victoria Pope—305.4097 Smit</p> <p><i>The Smithsonian's History of America in 101 Objects</i> by Richard Kurin—973 Kuri</p> <p><i>These Truths: A History of the United States</i> by Jill Lepore—973 Lepo</p> <p>We also have many books on specific events and time periods.</p> <p>Participation in Government:</p> <p><i>Fake News: Separating Truth From Fiction</i> by Michael Miller—070.43 Mill</p> <p><i>Fault Lines in the Constitution: The Framers, Their Fights and the Flaws That Affect Us Today</i> by Cynthia Levinson—342.7302 Levi</p> <p><i>How to Read the Constitution and Why</i> by Kim Wehle—342.7302 Wehl</p> <p><i>Landmark Supreme Court Cases</i> by Gary Hartman, Roy Mersky, and Cindy Tate—347.7326 Hart</p> <p><i>Teen Guide to Student Activism</i> by Stuart Kallen—371.81 Kall</p> <p><i>Votes of Confidence: A Young Person's Guide to American Elections</i> by Jeff Fleischer—324.6097 Flei</p> <p>World History:</p> <p><i>Hark! A Vagrant</i> by Kate Beaton—Adult Graphic Novels 741.5971 Beat</p> <p><i>History at a Glance: Illustrated Time Lines From Prehistory to the Present Day</i> by National Geographic—909 Nati</p> <p><i>The Infographic History of the World</i> by Valentina D'Efilippo and James Ball—909 Defi</p> <p><i>Timelines of Everything</i> by Kayla Dugger—902.22 Time</p> <p>Economics:</p> <p><i>The Economics Book</i> by Niall Kishtainy—330 Econ</p> <p><i>The Handy Personal Finance Answer Book</i> by Paul Tucci—332.024 Tucc</p> <p><i>Heads Up Money</i> by Marcus Weeks—330 Week</p>

	<p><i>Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science</i> by Charles Wheelan—330 Whee</p> <p><i>No More Mac 'n' Cheese: The Real-World Guide to Managing Your Money for 20-Somethings</i> by Lise Andreana—332.024 Andr</p> <p><i>Worth It...Not Worth It?: Simple & Profitable Answers to Life's Tough Financial Questions</i> by Jack Otter—332.024 Ott</p>
Databases & Websites	<p>NYS History http://www.history.com/topics/us-states/new-york</p> <p>Congress for Kids https://kids-clerk.house.gov/middle-school/</p> <p>National Archives-America's Founding Documents: https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs</p> <p>NYS Historical Newspapers: http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/</p> <p>Gale OneFile: World History: Through the NIOGA databases page</p> <p>Historical Periodicals Collection: Through the NIOGA databases page</p> <p>New York Heritage: https://nyheritage.org/</p>
Activities	<p>Do an in-depth study of a period of time/event that interests you</p> <p>Visit Old Fort Niagara</p> <p>Create a timeline of American history complete with drawings and pictures</p>
Math 2 Credits	
Library Area	Nonfiction: 510s
Books	<p><i>A-Plus Notes for Algebra (Algebra 2 and Pre-Calculus)</i> by Rong Yang—512.1 Yang</p> <p><i>Express Review Guides: Basic Math and Pre-Algebra</i> by Learning Express—510 Expre</p> <p><i>Mathematics Describing the Real World: Precalculus and Trigonometry (The Great Courses)</i> by Bruce Edwards—515.16 Math</p> <p><i>Statistics Demystified</i> by Stan Gibilisco—519.5 Gibi</p> <p><i>Understanding Calculus: Problems, Solutions, and Tips (The Great Courses)</i> by Bruce Edwards— 515 Calc</p>
Databases & Websites	<p>Khan Academy: https://www.khanacademy.org/math</p> <p>IXL : https://www.ixl.com/math/algebra-1</p> <p>Drexel University : http://mathforum.org/</p>
Activities	<p>Try to figure out how tall a building is using a ruler, a protractor and trigonometry</p> <p>Figure out how long a bucket will take to fill at different rates using calculus</p> <p>Try to make an intricate pattern by graphing different equations</p>
Science 2 Credits	
Library Area	Non-fiction: 500s
Books	<p>Experiments:</p> <p><i>The Field Guide to Citizen Science: How You Can Contribute to Scientific Research and Make a Difference</i> by Darlene Cavalier—500 Cava</p> <p><i>The Food Lab: Better Home Cooking Through Science</i> by J. Kenji Lopez-Alt—641.5 Lope</p> <p><i>Physics Projects for Young Scientists</i> by Richard Adams, Peter Goodwin—530.078 Phys</p>

Earth / planetary:

The Atlas of Climate Change by Kristin Dow and Thomas Downing—551.6 Dow

A Change in the Weather by Michael Allaby—551.6 Alla

Earth by James Luhr—550 Eart

Our Planet by Alastair Fothergill and Keith Scholey

No One is Too Small to Make a Difference by Greta Thunberg- B Thunberg

The Universe Explained: A Cosmic Q&A by Heather Couper and Nigel Henbest—522 Coup

We Have No Idea: A Guide to the Unknown Universe by Jorge Cham and Daniel Whiteson—523.1 Cham

Biology:

The Brain: The Story of You by David Eagleman –612.82 Eagl

Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species (Young Reader's Edition) by Rebecca Stefoff—576.82 Steff

Let's Review: Biology by Regents—Test Guides Regents

The Man Who Touched His Own Heart by Rob R. Dunn –612.17 Dunn

The Violinist's Thumb: and Other Lost Tales of Love, War and Genius by Sam Kean—572.8 Kean

Chemistry:

Barron's E-Z Chemistry by Joseph A. Mascetta—540.76 Masc

The Elements: A Visual Exploration of Every Known Atom in the Universe by Theodore Gray—546 Gray

Let's Review-Chemistry—Test Guides Regents

Organic Chemistry Demystified by Daniel Bloch—547 Bloc

Physics:

Astrophysics for People in a Hurry by Neil DeGrasse Tyson—523.01 Tyso

Let's Review- Physics by Miriam Lazar—Test Guides Regents

Particle Physics Brick by Brick: Atomic and Subatomic Physics Explained...in Lego by Ben Still—539.72 Stil

The Physics Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained by DK—520 Phys

The Physics of Everyday Things: The Extraordinary Science of an Ordinary Day—530 Kaka

	<p>Interdisciplinary:</p> <p><i>A Really Short History of Nearly Everything</i> by Bill Bryson—500 Brys</p> <p><i>What If?: Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions</i> by Randall Monroe—500 Monr</p>
Databases & Websites	<p>Khan Academy: https://www.khanacademy.org/science</p> <p>Physclips http://www.animations.physics.unsw.edu.au/</p> <p>Biology guide http://www.biologyguide.net/</p> <p>Periodic Table http://www.rsc.org/periodic-table</p> <p>GreenFILE: Through the NIOGA database page</p> <p>Gale OneFile: Science: Through the NIOGA database page</p>
Activities	<p>Launch your own weather balloon</p> <p>Visit the botanical gardens</p> <p>Take a guided tour of a national park</p>
Art and or Music (1 Credit)	
Library Area	Art: all of 700s and Music: 780s
Books	<p>Art:</p> <p><i>Art: A Visual History</i> by Robert Cumming—700 Cumm</p> <p><i>Art That Changed the World</i> by Ian Chilvers—709 Art</p> <p><i>Drawing for the Absolute and Utter Beginner</i> by Clare Watson Garcia—741.2 Garc</p> <p><i>Gardner’s Art Through The Ages Vol. I and II</i> by Fred Kleiner—709 Klei</p> <p><i>Sister Wendy’s 1000 Masterpieces</i> by Wendy Beckett—759 Beck</p> <p>Taschen Art Book Series (includes Van Gogh, Rivera, Modigliani, Warhol, Manet, Raphael, and more) – 700s</p> <p>Music:</p> <p><i>The Cambridge Music Guide</i> ed. by Stanley Sadie and Alison Latham—780.9 Camb</p> <p><i>The Library of Piano Favorites</i> by Amy Appleby—786.2 Libr</p> <p><i>Music: The Definitive Visual History</i> by Robert Ziegler—780.9 Musi</p> <p>Check out our Classical and Folk music cd sections for music you may not have heard before!</p>
Databases & Websites	<p>Google Art Project : https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/project/art-project</p> <p>National Gallery of Art: http://www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb.html</p> <p>Library of Congress Performance Division: https://www.loc.gov/rr/performance/guide/</p> <p>New York Philharmonic Watch and Listen: http://nyphil.org/watch-listen</p> <p>Gale OneFile: Fine Arts: Through the NIOGA databases pages</p>
Activities	<p>Visit the Albright Knox Museum, the Burchfield Penney Museum, the Carnegie Art Center, or Project 308</p> <p>Check the UB Center for the Arts schedule for events</p> <p>Attend a Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra concert or watch one of their streamed events</p>

Physical Education 2 Credits	
Library Area	Nonfiction: 613.7 ,796-798
Books	<p><i>The Sports Book</i> by DK—796 Spor</p> <p><i>Every Body Yoga</i> by Jessamyn Stanley—613.7046 Stan</p>
Databases & Websites	<p>New York Times Well Blog: http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/</p> <p>Different activities: https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/teen/fitness/Pages/Physical-Activities-for-Teens.aspx</p>
Activities	Check for programs with local Town Recreation Departments or the YMCA.

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