

****Press Release****

In response to COVID-19, most Maine libraries have made the difficult decision to close to the public during this time. **Don't forget!** There are many resources from public, academic, and school libraries that are available during these closures:

- **Story Time** – Many libraries are livestreaming story times and other content. In addition, there are fantastic online story time resources to save your voice and let a pro do the reading. There are also a variety of resources for free kids' ebooks. Follow the "Online Story Resources" link here for updated suggestions from the Maine State Library: <https://www.maine.gov/msl/libs/services/childliteracy.htm>
- **Internet Access** - Even though your library may be closed to the public, many libraries have their wifi connections available 24/7. You can drive up in your car or find a spot outside the library to get a better connection.
- **Learning Resources** - Digital Maine Library, available to anyone in Maine, has resources for community members of all ages, including students. There are newspapers, language learning, genealogy, and more here: <https://library.digitalmaine.org/>
- **More local resources** - Visit your local library's website or Facebook page to find additional local resources including ebooks and eaudiobooks, or other digital options. Look for an opportunity to sign up for the library's newsletter if they have one.

We look forward to the time when this will be behind us and we can offer our full services to our communities once again. We hope these resources help to get you through the interim.

Sincerely,

Maine Library Association Executive Board
Maine Infonet Staff
Maine State Library