

Library as learning hub

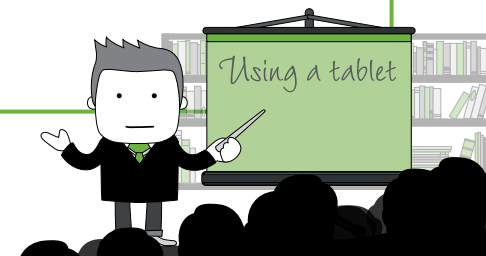
OUTCOMES

Through the kinds of activities described in this table, libraries can play a key role in achieving the outcomes which governments are seeking – such as

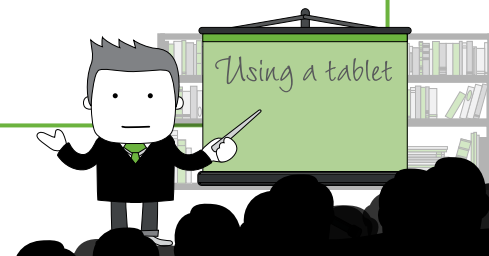
- ✓ creating opportunities
- ✓ tackling disadvantage
- ✓ creating smarter citizens
- ✓ helping everyone to reach their potential
- ✓ making opportunity more equal
- ✓ investing in the future
- ✓ improving skills for employment



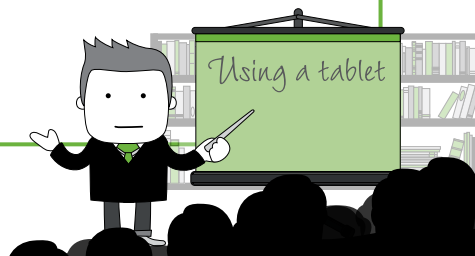
Area of Activity	Type of Activity	Details	Reference
Supporting literacy		The importance of literacy to wellbeing has been extensively researched and written about by the National Literacy Trust (NLT). While this does not relate exclusively to the role of public libraries, there is a great deal of relevant research and policy work from NLT, showing how literacy is related to economic and social wellbeing, and how low literacy makes individuals and communities more vulnerable to inequality, increasing the risk of social exclusion and undermining social mobility.	Dugdale G and Clark C, <i>Literacy Changes Lives, and advocacy resource</i> , National Literacy Trust 2008. Morrisroe, J, <i>Literacy Changes Lives 2014: A new perspective on healthy, employment and crime</i> , National Literacy Trust, Read On Get On, Words for Life 2014
		One of the most accurate predictors of a child's achievement is not only parental income or social status. It is also the extent to which parents are able to create a home environment that encourages learning and sets high yet reasonable expectations for achievement in future careers.	<i>Literacy: a route to addressing child poverty</i> , National Literacy Trust 2011
Reading for pleasure		There is a range of evidence that shows that reading for pleasure is important for educational and personal development and there is a positive relationship between reading frequency, reading enjoyment and attainment.	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/284286/reading_for_pleasure.pdf
		Reading for pleasure is a more important indicator of future success than any socio-economic factor. Research for the Institute of Education found that children who read for pleasure made more progress in maths, vocabulary and spelling between the ages of 10 and 16 than those who rarely read. Reading for pleasure was found to be more important for children's cognitive development between ages 10 and 16 than their parents' level of education. The combined effect on children's progress of reading books often, going to the library regularly and reading newspapers at 16 was four times greater than the advantage children gained from having a parent with a degree. Children who were read to regularly by their parents at age 5 performed better in all three tests at age 16 than those who were not helped in this way.	Sullivan A and Brown M, <i>Reading for Change – Performance and Engagement Across Countries: Results from PISA 2000, OECD 2002</i>
		Research by the National Literacy Trust (NLT) shows that children who use their public library are twice as likely as their peers to be above average readers. This led to the development of the Young Readers Programme by NLT which works with children from deprived areas, involving schools and libraries.	http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/yrrp



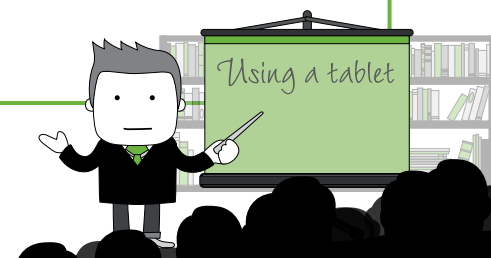
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		<p>Research showed that young people who use their public library are nearly twice as likely to be reading outside of class every day. Those using their library are nearly twice as likely to say that they enjoy reading. Non-library users were almost three times as likely to rate themselves as 'not very good readers'.</p>	<p><i>Evidence review of the economic contribution of libraries</i>, ACE, 2014.</p>
		<p>A study from the Institute of Education (IoE) has shown how reading for pleasure at a young age can impact on the vocabulary of an individual. Analysis shows that those who had regularly read for pleasure at 10 scored 67 per cent in the age 42 vocabulary test, whereas infrequent childhood readers scored only 51 per cent.</p>	<p>http://www.ioe.ac.uk/newsEvents/107587.html</p>
		<p>In Wales, through the Every Child a Library Member scheme, year 4 school pupils automatically become members of their local library service. The aim is to inspire them to enjoy reading for pleasure and to improve their reading, literacy and life skills. The scheme was launched in Spring 2014. In 2016 every local authority in Wales will participate and 33,000 pupils will be targeted. The latest evaluation showed that since using the library 94% of children surveyed enjoy reading more. In addition, evaluation shows that by automatically enrolling school children, other family members are being encouraged to join and use their library.</p> <p>Scotland is currently piloting an Every Child a Library Member scheme.</p>	<p>http://welshlibraries.org/reading/schools/</p> <p>http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/A-novel-way-to-start-reading-1c50.aspx</p>
		<p>The Class Visits programme is open to all Northern Ireland nursery, primary, post primary and special needs schools and aims to give pupils an insight into the range of services available at their local library, and to encourage them to become members. Classes can come to the library for book exchange, storytelling, craft sessions, to use computers etc. Within the Class Visits programme, there is a set of activities specifically aimed at primary school age children in Years 4 and 6 and supports Key Stage 1 and 2 language and literacy skills as detailed in the NI Curriculum. This element of the programme offers a series of 3 one hour visits for pupils in these year groups which include a general introduction and tour of the library, activities to help explain the layout of library stock and instruction on the various uses of computers in the library. One-off visits are also available which give pupils a general overview of library services and resources. At the end of each visit, the pupils will listen to a story and there will be an opportunity for them to browse and exchange books. The programme for Years 4 and 6 has been quality assured by the Northern Ireland Education and Training Inspectorate. The official statistics for 2014/15 show that 95,815 children took part in the school class visits programme (3,896 sessions).</p>	<p>http://www.librariesni.org.uk/Children/Pages/Class-Visits-Programme.aspx</p>



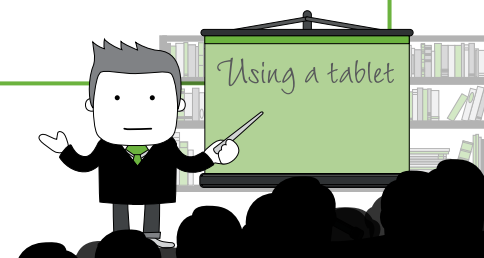
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		<p>In North Ayrshire, the “Appiness” project co-ordinates a programme of educational apps and digital learning for very young children and their carers. It targets learning in areas including literacy, numeracy, art, music, science and technology. Parents also learn about safety controls and how to evaluate age-appropriate content. The project was the 2015 CILIP Libraries Change Lives Award Winner.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lx6Lt7xc2zA&feature=youtu.be</p> <p>http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/advocacy-campaigns-awards/libraries-change-lives-award/2015-libraries-change-lives-award</p>
		<p>In South Lanarkshire a digiTable project has introduced interactive story-telling sessions using a touch-screen table installed in East Kilbride Library to encourage interest in reading for pleasure among school children.</p>	
	Summer Reading Challenge	<p>The Summer Reading Challenge can help primary schools avoid the ‘summer holiday dip’ in pupils’ reading motivation and attainment, widen pupils’ reading range and repertoire, and boost their desire to read at home. Children sign up at their local library, read six library books of their choice and collect stickers and other rewards along the way. In 2015, 804,647 children took part in the Summer Reading Challenge.</p>	<p>http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/</p>
		<p>The Summer Book Bus is an outreach programme to 3 Tipperary villages that are too far from a library for children to go in order to participate in the Summer Reading Programme. It is run in partnership with Local Community Development Companies.</p>	<p>http://www.tipperarylibraries.ie/summer-reading-adventure-2015/summer-book-bus-2015/</p>
	Support for dyslexia	<p>Edinburgh City Libraries’ Dyslexia Chatterbooks initiative is a reading group offering a safe environment for children with dyslexia to enjoy reading. Six volunteers were recruited to help, using Edinburgh Libraries Volunteer Policy. Children, aged 8-10 years, were initially recruited from primary schools across the city through contacts with learning support staff. Recent recruits have been in response to promotion on Dyslexia Scotland and Edinburgh Libraries’ websites. There is always a short waiting list and the service plans to develop other groups in neighbourhood libraries. The group meets for an hour and half once a month. Sessions begin with 5 minutes of ‘quiet and stillness’ when everyone sits in a circle, focussing on ‘mock’ tea lights and soft music. The purpose of this is to move from school and any tension or chaos of the day to something different, and to manage any potentially challenging behaviour. The nature of the group means that some children have to deal not only with dyslexia, but also ADHD, Aspergers etc. Each session includes games, stories, sometimes drama and dressing-up sessions, refreshments and at least half an hour reading and choosing time in small groups of 1 adult :2 children. Formal evaluation shows 100% parents agreeing that their child is more confident with reading, 90% agreed their child had a more positive attitude to reading and 90% agreed their child is happier trying to read different books.</p>	<p>http://readingagency.org.uk/children/003-tips/chatterbooks-for-children-with-dyslexia.html</p> <p>http://talesofonecity.wordpress.com/2013/12/05/libraries-and-dyslexia/</p>



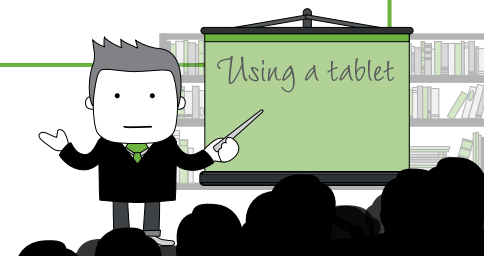
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		All Birmingham public libraries can provide support to people with dyslexia. They have produced booklists for young people and adults with dyslexia, and can refer people to other sources of support locally.	http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/dyslexia
Digital Literacy	Courses and support for all	Paignton Library, part of Torbay libraries, runs a Stroke Support Group for those who had lost computer skills. The Stroke Association also runs a drop-in session for stroke survivors and carers to facilitate confidence building, sharing and communication in the library.	http://www.bookmarkyourlibrary.org.uk/support-groups https://www.stroke.org.uk/finding-support/torbay-peer-support-information-advice-service
		Get IT Together Leeds is an outreach programme managed by Citizens Online. Events are held in local libraries and under-used community facilities. Events are delivered by professionals and volunteer trainers (Digital Champions).	http://www.citizensonline.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Leeds-Final-draft-02-03-15-2-external.pdf
		Kilkenny Library Service in the Republic of Ireland works with Kilkenny VEC to provide computer classes in Ferrybank Library in South Kilkenny. The initiative is funded by the Community Education Service, which also provides the tutor. The venue, PCs and promotion are provided by the library. The classes cover basic IT skills and take place for two hours a week for six weeks.	http://www.askaboutireland.ie/aai-files/assets/libraries/an-chomhairle-leabharlanna/libraries/public-libraries/publications/Opportunities-for-all-2013.pdf
		Got IT? is a free programme in Northern Ireland to support people with little or no knowledge of computers and help them develop IT basic skills. The programme is aimed at adults and delivered by Libraries NI staff on a one-to-one or small group basis, with sessions covering the following topics: Introduction to computers; Introduction to the Internet; Introduction to email.	http://www.librariesni.org.uk/Services/Computers/Pages/Got-IT.aspx
		The Digital Bazaar, Lambeth Libraries and Archives: one Saturday morning every two months, the community around Tate South Lambeth Library join their local library team to explore all things digital – the internet, computers, mobile phones, digital cameras, iPads, e-readers etc. Experienced users learn about new devices and programmes alongside beginners who are using the internet for the first time. As well as stressing the importance of neighbourly sharing, this free event showcases the role of the library service as a major national digital resource. After the successful Lambeth pilot, other local authorities are keen to introduce the Digital Bazaar in their libraries.	http://digitaltuesdays.co.uk/wp/digital-bazaar/



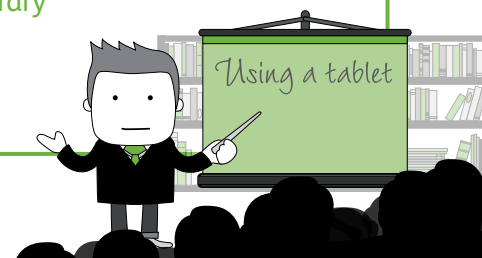
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		<p>Caerphilly County Borough Council and key partners including Communities 2.0 and Get Caerphilly Online have been proactive in providing digital skills for citizens, pioneering the Digital Fridays initiative at several of the Borough's main Library venues, including Bargoed. Residents can access digital skill support at these events and assistance with Universal Job Match and wider job seeking activity.</p>	<p><i>Culture and poverty: Harnessing the power of the arts, culture and heritage to promote social justice in Wales</i>, Report to the Welsh Assembly Government by Dame Kay Andrews, 2014; http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/140313-caerphilly-library-service-en.pdf</p> <p>http://www.getcaerphillyonline.org.uk/digital-fridays/</p>
		<p>Go ON is for people in Northern Ireland who want to find out more about technology and computers in a relaxed environment and at their own pace. The course is offered on a modular basis and is free. Topics covered include Travel – using the internet to plan journeys and holidays; Get That Job – exploring websites offering jobs, benefits and career information; Organise Your Life Online – finding out about online banking, how to pay utility bills online, links to websites offering money advice, access to benefits information and using the NI Direct website eg. to book an MOT; Shopping online – the basics of shopping securely online; Using Social Media; Your Health Online. 3,294 adults participated in 3,085 Got IT? Sessions in 2013/14.</p>	<p>http://www.librariesni.org.uk/Services/Computers/Pages/Go-ON.aspx</p> <p>http://www.go-on.co.uk/</p>
		<p>Halesworth Library introduced an iPad lending service in July 2015. The scheme offers people the chance to borrow an iPad for three weeks. The library also runs laptop and iPad sessions for people who need help with their devices.</p>	<p>http://suffolklibraries.co.uk/help/borrowing-ereaders-and-ipads</p>
		<p>Huddersfield Library is one of a growing number of libraries that has created a Raspberry Pi club. The aim is to introduce people to programming and how computers work. The number of libraries offering Raspberry Pi clubs are expected to grow.</p>	<p>http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/community/adultLearning/pdf/adultLearnersBrochure.pdf</p>
		<p>In response to concerns that girls and young women were under-achieving and under-represented in the science and computing industries, Manchester Libraries, Information and Archives in partnership with Manchester Girl Geeks and Mad Labs have delivered a series of MakerSpaces workshops including 'Introduction to Coding'. They also work with Robogals to engage girls in building robots and potentially develop their interest in programming and science.</p>	<p>http://manchestergirlgeeks.com/</p> <p>http://manchester.robotgals.org.uk/</p>



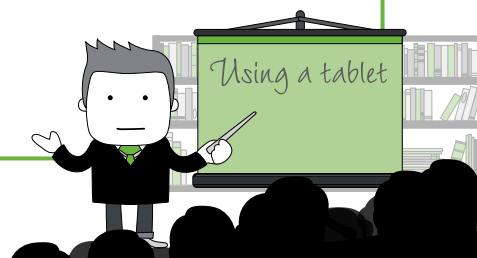
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		Cardiff Central Library Hub provided free code learning clubs for children in partnership with Code Club. The library provided the venue, hosted equipment and WiFi; Code Club the expertise and the running of sessions. The library will become the central hub for Code Club Wales.	https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/code-club-at-cardiff-central-library-hub
		Chepstow Library runs a volunteer led programming club aimed at 11 to 17 year olds. Mentors facilitate engagement with new and emerging technologies around websites, games, apps, animations etc. The project is supported by the Carnegie UK Trust.	http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/libraries/coding-club-ideas-garage
		The Society of Chief Librarians (SCL) has a Universal Learning Offer that provides libraries with 'Code Green': a detailed Digital Making Kit, a how-to guide to give customers hands-on experience in computer programming (coding), designing and making 3D objects, building robots, creating apps and many other creative activities for all ages. The resources will build on SCL's Digital Skills Training programme that reached 14,000 library staff.	http://goscl.com/code-green-libraries-to-teach-robotics-coding-and-more/
		The Society of Chief Librarians supported a new BT and Barclays initiative to bring free Wi-Fi and hands-on digital support to over 50 libraries across England	http://goscl.com/libraries-supporting-community-digital-skills/
		Halifax ran a pilot in Calderdale to hold IT taster session facilities to help more people become financially and digitally included in 2015.	https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/halifax-community-bank
		Many libraries run courses to support people with IT and digital skills.	
Lifelong learning	Filling the gaps in formal learning	Lifelong learning is defined as purposeful learning activity undertaken on an ongoing basis with the aim of improving the knowledge, skills and competence of people at any stage of life. Libraries are socially inclusive and fill a gap in the formal educational structures. Local public libraries are the nodal points of access to the whole world of digital knowledge.	IFLA, <i>The role of libraries in lifelong learning</i> , 2004
		In Tower Hamlets, Idea Stores provide a combination of library and community learning services. They offer over 900 courses in a wide variety of subjects, from business and finance to visual arts, and taking in cookery and photography.	https://www.ideastore.co.uk/course-search



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		<p>Worcestershire Libraries and Learning Services provide a range of part-time adult learning day and evening courses, designed to develop personal skills and open the door to new experiences and opportunities. The adult and community learning team travel to places where people do not have easy access to adult learning, and they use informal settings such as libraries, schools, children's centres and community centres.</p>	<p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/adult-learning.aspx</p>
		<p>In Bury Council, three of the public libraries (Prestwich, Ramsbottom and Whitefield) are also Adult Learning Centres, and provide a range of courses and opportunities for adults, from computing to flower arranging.</p>	
		<p>A report by The Reading Agency reveals that literacy groups with adult learners had a positive impact, enabling participants to write for pleasure and develop skills such as spelling. Group reading activities helped participants to build confidence and self-respect. Improved literacy skills enabled learners to do fill in forms or use cook books.</p>	<p><i>Words for Life</i>, The Reading Agency, 2014 http://readingagency.org.uk/about/Words%20for%20Life%20report.pdf</p>
	<p>Supporting informal learning</p>	<p>Libraries provide informal services for adult learners and signposting to adult learning opportunities. Libraries usually work with other partners such as local colleges, voluntary organisations and others to provide services. Provision ranges from IT to English as a second language, as well as taster courses. Libraries have to provide appropriate facilities and staff to support this kind of work.</p>	<p>MLA, <i>Provision for adult learners in public libraries in England</i>, MLA 2005</p>
		<p>In Aberdeenshire, The Philosophy Café runs discussions on a range of topics across various locations including libraries in Ellon, Oldmeldrum, Inverurie and Kintore.</p>	<p>http://www.thephilosophycafe.org/about.php</p>
		<p>'It seems history is to blame' is a Cork City Libraries local studies project in response to the centenaries of the Easter Rising in 1916, the First World War and the War of Independence in Ireland. It is designed to help citizens understand what happened and why, and to learn lessons for the present. It combines library-based events with online resources.</p>	<p>http://www.corkcitylibraries.ie/servicesandprogrammes/historytoblame/</p>
		<p>USA groups often work with public libraries and draw on their resources.</p>	
<p>English language</p>	<p>Language courses</p>	<p>In Macdonald Road library in Edinburgh English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) classes are provided twice a week in partnership with a local college. They also run weekly ESOL crisis classes on a weekly drop-in basis.</p> <p>Participants are able to move onto classes involving help and advice on CVs and getting people into work. Due to the large number of homeless shelters in the area Macdonald Road Library gets lots of people coming in to use the service.</p>	<p>http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/directory_record/5066/mcdonald_road_library</p>



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		Cardiff Central Library Hub runs 'Conversation Club' for people who are looking to learn English as a second language. It is open to anyone looking to better their language skills including refugees and asylum seekers.	https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Libraries-and-archives/Find-a-library/Pages/Central-Library.aspx
Early years and school age	Books for Babies	The Book Trust runs the Bookstart scheme in England. It is a large scale initiative. Research suggests a link between the scheme and library use, reading for pleasure and preparation for school. Children who had participated were still ahead at age 7.	http://www.bookstart.org.uk/about-us/who-we-work-with/libraries/ Wade B and Moore M, 'A Sure Start with Books', <i>Early Years</i> 20(Spring):39-46, 2000; Wade B and Moore M, 'Home Activities: The Advent of Literacy', <i>European Early Childhood Education Research Journal</i> 4: 63-76, 1996; Hines M et al, <i>Sheffield Babies Love Books: An Evaluation of the Sheffield Bookstart Project</i> , University of Sheffield, 2005.
		Bookstart evaluation shows £25 return on £1 investment in terms of social benefit to parents, children and communities.	Booktrust, <i>National Impact Evaluation</i> London: Booktrust 2009; Booktrust, <i>Family Reading Activity Survey 2010</i> , Fathership Institute and ICM Research 2010.
		Libraries NI's Rhythm and Rhyme programme is a free programme of stories, rhymes and songs delivered on a regular basis by Libraries NI staff (or held in partnership with SureStart) for parents, carers and pre-school children (aged 0-4 years). The aim of the programme is to improve children's language and communication skills before they enter formal education. In addition to sessions that are open to the public, the programme is also available to young children attending day nurseries, playgroups, parent and toddler groups etc. These dedicated sessions are mostly held on the library premises but some are also delivered by Libraries NI staff at external locations (eg. on playgroup premises, at community centres etc.). On occasions, public sessions are also delivered at external locations as part of community festivals etc. The most recent official statistics published (for 2013/14) indicate that there were 120,280 participants (54,676 adults and 71,604 children) engaged in a total of 4,431 Rhythm and Rhyme sessions for pre-school age children (0-4 years). This is a 26% increase in participation and a 23% increase in sessions since 2012/13.	http://www.librariesni.org.uk/Children/Pages/Rhythm-and-Rhyme.aspx



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		The Baby Bookclub has been rolled out across selected Fingal County libraries in the Republic of Ireland. They are designed to expose parents and children under the age of 2 to books, encouraging and developing childhood literacy.	http://www.askaboutireland.ie/aai-files/assets/libraries/an-chomhairle-leabharlanna/libraries/public-libraries/publications/Opportunities-for-all-2013.pdf
		Library NI's Rub-a-dub-hub is a digital platform for carers of babies and pre-school children with resources to increase carers' awareness of the impact of early intervention has in pre-school children. The programme will be launched in May 2016 and is supported by the Carnegie UK Trust.	http://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/changing-minds/knowledge---culture/the-future-of-libraries/carnegie-library-lab/eileen-russell
	Homework support	The Learning Zone of the askaboutIreland.ie website provides content and interactive activities for primary and secondary age schoolchildren. The content has been developed in association with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST) and the PDST Technology in Education. The content is presented according to class group, from infants through to sixth class, and each unit is accompanied by teachers' notes. Subjects include history, geography, science, environment, Irish, English, music and art. The secondary students' section offers a wide variety of content to support the post-primary curriculum and provides students with authentic materials in a range of subjects to support a researched-based learning approach.	http://www.askaboutireland.ie/aai-files/assets/libraries/an-chomhairle-leabharlanna/libraries/public-libraries/publications/Opportunities-for-all-2013.pdf
		Sedgley Library runs a homework club.	
Supporting learning abroad		Library for All is a cloud-based, digital library platform created to overcome the lack of books in classrooms in countries across the world. The organisation works with publishers, NGOs and governments.	https://twitter.com/libraryforall
		The Ideas Box is a portable multi-media kit for refugee and vulnerable populations. It provides individuals and communities isolated by disaster the tools to read, write, create and communicate. It also equips vulnerable populations with customized technologies and programming to access critical information.	http://www.librarieswithoutborders.org/index.php/news-and-events/lwb-news/item/291-the-ideas-box-a-portable-multi-media-kit-for-emergency-humanitarian-situations

