

Information about linking to SCLS Online Resources

Why link to the online resources on the library's webpage?

- It will help patrons find the resources.
- It will associate your library with providing the resources (your library pays to provide these to your patrons!)
- It will help get the word out that there are fabulous electronic resources for all subjects that patrons can access from the library or from home!

Why link to the online resources going through the SCLS authentication script?

SCLS uses scripts to authenticate users for access to online resources. When you link to the online resources, it is important to use a link to these authentication scripts. Doing so insures:

- **Authenticated users will be able to access the resource from anywhere.** If a SCLS user with a valid card accesses a resource by going through our script, they will be able to use the resource from anywhere (not just in the library). Going directly to the resource (and skipping the script entirely) may result in access for some in-library users (and occasionally for home users), but in many cases home users will be met with a prompt for a username and password which they don't have.
- **Users of the resource will be counted and those counts can be broken down by library.** By accessing the resource going through the script, users will be counted. The counts and information that we get from our script enable us to break down use by library and by resource. Going directly to the resource (and skipping the script entirely) may result in general counts for SCLS, but we will not be able to break those down by library.

How else can I promote the online resources in my library?

- Cross-promote! Do you subscribe to ChiltonLibrary.com? How about putting a sign up by the Auto Manuals, alerting patrons to the online information? How about a sign for Overdrive near the audiobooks?
- Use them yourself... Become familiar with some of the resources. Attend a training session. Try them out.
- ...and then tell someone about them! Word of mouth is a great way to let patrons know about these great resources. If a patron has a question about preparing for the SATs, mention that the library subscribes to LearningExpress and they can take online practice tests there. If a patron is checking out audiobooks, ask if they have an MP3 player and if they have tried Overdrive...