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What’s the Value?

To Districts, the BCDC provides digital content that is:

- Safe
- Evaluated
- Able to be accessed from anywhere
- Available in English and French
- Cost effective and provides huge savings
- Accessible
- Packaged with multiple suppliers and products in one
- Negotiated and managed by ERAC
- Supported with Implementation, deployment and professional learning provided by ERAC

To Educators, the BCDC provides:

- A wealth of information
- Cross curricular resources
- Digital resources that are integrated with curriculum
- English and French resources
- An avenue to accomplish the expectation that technology is being used to enhance learning.
- A safe online learning environment
- Differentiated and grade leveled digital resources

To IT Staff, the BCDC has value because it:

- Generally, works with minimum effort
- Has multiple suppliers in one package
- Uses one set of Implementation and deployment data
- Has available varied deployment methods
- Uses proven and mature technology and platform
- Is managed by ERAC

What is the BC Digital Classroom?

The BC Digital Classroom is:

- A unique collection of digital resources
- Available to students and staff, both at home and at school
- Specifically designed to meet the diverse needs of Districts and Schools

The BC Digital Classroom has two key components:

- The Core Collection of 17 resources, licensed for appropriate age levels, at a cost of $1.00 per student FTE
- An à la carte menu that contains resources that can be purchased individually

Core Collection
The Core Collection must be purchased before you can order options from the à la carte menu.
What's on the à la carte Menu?

Included in the à la carte menu are the resources below.

- **BC Digital Classroom**
- **National Geographic Channel**
- **News In Review**
- **LEARN360**
- **my Blueprint education planner**
- **Dramatic Learning**
- **GREENR**
- **EBSCOhost**

**Something Valuable for Every Age Group**

- **Early World of Learning** provides many opportunities for younger students to explore language and learning through activities, songs, stories, and reading.
- The **WorldBook Online** collection provides differentiated access to encyclopedic information and a variety of ways to interact and access it.
- A unique subset of World Book Online is **Science Power**, with a wide array of Science Learning Activities provided at two reading levels.
- **National Geographic Kids (NGK)** provides access to years of NGK magazines and other publications.
- **Passport to the Internet** provides Internet safety learning in an engaging game interface.
- **EBSCO databases** are provided with grade level focus. Each of the three databases searches millions of primary and secondary source documents, including hundreds of magazines. Reading levels are selectable through the advanced search functionality.
- **KnowBC** is a set of BC-focused encyclopedia and print resources.
- **Gale databases** with specific 'In Context' focuses. Each has a curricular focus. All three databases can be searched through the Power Search option.
What is the Implementation Process?

Maintaining the District Implementation Spreadsheet

**Step 1** Annually, review and verify your:
- School and District Contacts
- User Names and Passwords
- Identify new and closed schools
- IP addresses for each site

**Step 2** Send a copy to:
- [info@bcerac.ca](mailto:info@bcerac.ca) to ensure fewer disruptions.

**Step 3** ERAC staff will:
- Verify your subscription
- Submit a copy of your spreadsheet to the appropriate vendors
- Instruct each vendor to notify your District Contact and ERAC when the access has been activated

**Step 4** Districts need to ask each of their schools to:
- Test the access to each product within their educational sites, and
- Test access and off-campus using the User Names and Passwords provided to the vendors

**Step 5** Resolve **Occasional** Connectivity Issues
- Your District Contact will receive a vendor contact list.
- Your IT Implementation Coordinator will be able to immediately report any issues directly to the vendor.
- Reach out to [info@bcerac.ca](mailto:info@bcerac.ca) if you cannot resolve the issue and ask for assistance.

How Can Our District Maintain Seamless Access?

- Update your *Annual BCDC Implementation & Deployment Template* either in the summer or at the beginning of the school year
- Keep your ERAC Contact current on both the ERAC website and on the above template to ensure prompt service requests
- Provide highlighted IP & PW changes to ERAC immediately so all vendors can ensure on-site authentication and home-user access
- Advertise throughout the District/School your landing page for BC Digital Classroom products
- Communicate to all teaching staff the log-in and passwords needed for teacher/student home use
- Correct duplicate log-ins (those being used in other jurisdictions) when notified, as they must be renamed and entered on your updated *Annual BCDC Implementation & Deployment Template* and forwarded to all vendors before you can use the products
- District Contacts need to advise ERAC when school users are unable to access the BCDC products
- Publish throughout your District/Schools, the name and contact information of the person responsible for BC Digital Classroom in your District
What Are Best Practices for URLs, Logins & Passwords?

• Districts using a portal for student and teacher logins, the district contact will need to provide the ‘Referring URL” on their Annual BCDC Implementation & Deployment Template so you can configure the product with the vendors;

• Your products will be readily accessible without a login or password when IP’s are used, where Districts portals are inside the firewall with a listed IP addresses that information needs to be on the Implementation Template;

• Staff/students working outside of your educational sites i.e. from home, may use the provincially assigned generic logins and passwords. **Username:** bclearns **Password:** ilearn. If both staff and students have the same username and password, there are less opportunities for confusion; and

• District assigned usernames and passwords need the following:
  o A generic School Board District username which could be:
    **Username:** vsb39 or SD39, paired with the School Board District password (needs at least 5 characters)
    **Password:** ilearn

  o To provide each school with generic username and password, each school needs a unique identifier with a password that may or may not be common for all schools e.g.
    - **User:** vsbjos
      **Password:** library (for Secondary School)
    - **User:** vsbkgs
      **Password:** library (for Secondary School)
    - **User:** vsblre
      **Password:** learn (for Elementary School)
    - **User:** vsbqae
      **Password:** ilearn (for Elementary School)

**Note:** One cannot have the same username with different passwords as the username represents a single account. When using a generic district username and password for home access, the vendor will record home access statistics that do not provide school-based home use statistics.

**Exceptions:**
The following vendor sites are configured differently than the standard vendor IP Authentication method:

- **myBlueprint.ca** creates a custom URL for students and teachers to create their own account. Students go to myBlueprint.ca/sdxx and then select their school from the drop down menu. Teachers choose the Teachers link at the bottom of the page after selecting school

- **Media Smarts – Passport to the Internet** uses the same usernames and passwords throughout the province
  - **Teachers**
    Username – bcteacher
    Password – besafeonline
  - **Student**
    Username – bcstudent
    Password – besafeonline
• National Film Board Campus Edition
  Teachers go to the following URL’s and create their own personalized account that access the free NFB and Campus Edition with the ability to create and share playlists
  
  o https://www.nfb.ca/transaction/institutional-subscription/token/1305843373961049/
  or http://bit.ly/bceracNFB
  
  o https://www.onf.ca/transaction/abonnement-institutionnel/jeton/1305843373961049/

How do Students & Teachers Access the BC Digital Classroom?

Click the product icon. If you are within a licensed school, it will IP authenticate and connect. If you are outside of your school you need to use the username and password provided by your school/district.

BCDC.bcerac.ca/access

Tips for Building Capacity

Build capacity by communicating to all educators and students that the BC Digital Classroom is available for school and home use. Ensure that your educational community is aware of your District’s commitment to providing safe digital products available 24/7.

Increase Awareness by:

• Highlighting access at staff meetings
• Planning collaboratively
• Posting staff bulletins and thematic posters in highly visible locations
• Supporting champions
• Sending notification electronically or on paper to all students and their parents

Enhance Ease of Access with:

• Bookmarks with username / password
• Library portal page
• Library bookmarks
• Direct links – Magazines, Tweets
• Widgets embedded on teacher blogs / AML App

Monitor Statistics
World Book, EBSCO, Gale and Learn360 offer districts access to an admin portal where statistics by product, and site, can be viewed and downloaded. Contact ERAC for more information.

Focus on Value Add

• Timely Theme / Subject resources
• Direct links (magazines)
• Differentiation – Reading Level, Read Aloud
• Building Searching Skills
• Evaluated collection
• Safe environment

Utilize Additional Resources on bcdc.bcerac.ca

• Sharing
• Vendor support
• Downloads
Book the ERAC Professional Learning Team for:
- Presentations
- District Pro-D Days
- Workshops
- Regional events
- District consultations

Please reach out if you have additional needs.

Contact ERAC

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