



**INSPIRING STORIES:  
LETTERS TO INSPIRE FROM  
USERS ACROSS INDIANA**

Dear Inspire,

I am helping as a "research assistant" with the updating of a physical therapy research text and use Inspire constantly. I use it to locate books in the Indiana University catalog and to search for the most recent journal articles that apply to the chapter I am currently working on. It is easier to use and has more information than some other sources on the internet. The best thing is I can use it at home at my convenience.

Sincerely,  
Carol L. Baker PT

Inspire was the answer to my daughter's quest for information about Peyton Manning. She's an avid fan, has followed him through his football years with the UT Vols. She wanted recent information about him, and Indianapolis news does not reach her. So.... I was able to access Inspire and e-mail her articles.

Thanks! She is pleased!! Wish she could be more pleased with his rookie year with the Colts, as well!

Linda Zwick,  
Lawrenceburg, IN

I am a student Rose-Hulman. I have found the Inspire service to be very valuable. It is a very convenient research tool. I really find the full-text journal articles useful for my research. I would love to see even more full-text journal articles. Keep up the good work.

Ed Hatfield  
Rose-Hulman  
Inst. of Tech.

On the library ownership vs. access:

It's easier to justify local property tax hikes for library materials that are owned and state funding for library materials that are accessed. My library board thinks local people with local taxes want library materials they can see and touch, and state funds for cyberstuff. And they will back this up through voting. Don't know how this idea plays elsewhere, but I thought it was interesting.

Carolyn Konnert,  
Director, Bloomfield  
Public Library

"Inspire has added an entirely new research dimension to our school media centers and is a fantastic way to prepare students for college." I will steal this quote for speaking engagements/demos at other libraries.

Kristie Bladen,  
Bloomfield School  
District

I continue to hear wild raving about Inspire — and I mean that in a positive way!

Margaret Mohundro,  
INCOLSA

Recently, our library hosted our local Chamber of Commerce for a tour of our business information resources. Included on the tour was a demo of Inspire. We used sample searches for topics such as do's and don'ts for writing annual reports; how to quickly prepare a business luncheon; and putting together a program on safety in the workplace. We found articles on all these topics. Chamber members who attended were introduced to a new resource for their everyday business concerns. A library board member was among the group and gave us high marks for this effort. We are watching Inspire as it develops and support it in concept as a major way libraries can influence the development of information technology.

Dianne Hill,  
Asst. Director,  
Morgan County Public Library

I just found out about this web site through my daughter's PTO newsletter. I think that this is a fine idea that should be made public as much as possible. I have registered my daughter and I know that she will use your web site often. Thanks again!

Having read the article in the October issue of *Focus on Indiana Libraries*, I am responding with a couple of ways that we have used Inspire in our resource center. We are a middle school of 900+ students with internet access in all classrooms. Recently, all seventh grade students were in the resource center to work on an interdisciplinary unit on sea animals and fishes. Students needed to know facts including classification information on various sea creatures. The encyclopedia of animals section of inspire worked out beautifully! All the information needed was there and almost every creature was covered. We have also used the periodical database quite frequently. It has worked so well that we will most likely drop our Infotrac subscription next year. I love having access to inspire from my home computer. It helps with setting up for classes as well as helping with my own children's homework. I am spreading the word to all staff members about this great site!

Thank you again for Inspire!!

Judy Backe  
Grimmer Middle School  
Scherville, IN

We at the Walton Public Library are extremely pleased to have Inspire. It will save us \$800.00 in 1999 (money that would go to MAS subscription). We have used Inspire to research several topics for student reports and for consumer information. Some specific subjects that come to mind are: fibromyalgia (a medical condition), nursing home patient abuse, and microwave oven safety. Our patrons like having the full text option as we are a small library with a periodical holding of only 60 titles. Please continue the great job managing Inspire. We really use it and are counting on it for all of 1999.

Robert Moore,  
Library Director,  
Walton Library

Just wanted to let you know that the Inspire databases have made a tremendous improvement on our ability to serve both faculty and students in the library. We have several teachers in Master's programs or continuing education who are being better served because of the Academic Database. We have not had immediate access to this type of information at the high school level and it is wonderful. Because of recent research successes, we are getting requests from the spouses of faculty members who are also working on degrees.

We just completed our first grading period which included senior research projects and were able to locate information on topics for which we had very little information in the library. It was very timely, since some students tend to wait until too late to get information through interlibrary loan.

Thank you for this service and I know we will find more and better uses of many of the databases provided through Inspire.

Shirley Bocock  
Librarian,  
East Central High School  
St. Leon, IN

As I introduced all the seniors to Inspire in a formal lab situation, I gave each student a bookmark provided by INCOLSA. Afterwards I daily wore an Inspire pin. As I trained students one on one who came into the library, I would take off my pin and give it to them. After a few weeks students had learned about Inspire by word of mouth as well as training. I now give students either a pin or pencil when I "catch" them using Inspire. We have Inspire linked on our homepage so students can just click and go to it after they log on. Students are now asking when the other search engines such as "Ask Jeeves" will have pins and pencils for them.

Kathy Ellison  
Forest Park Jr. Sr.  
High School  
Ferdinand, IN

We recently had a grandmother come into our library wanting to find a copy of an article her grandson had written. All the information she had was that it was published in the November 23, 1998 issue of the *Christian Science Monitor*. We do not have a subscription to this newspaper. I checked the "Inspire Newspaper Source" and saw that the *Christian Science Monitor* was indexed and had full-text access! I typed in her grandson's name, limited it to the *Christian Science Monitor* and the article appeared. I located and printed it out before the grandmother had a chance to ask me if the article could be printed! She was so pleased and thanked us profusely. She could hardly wait to read the article her grandson had written. Another Inspire success story.

Paula K. Hasler  
Reference Librarian,  
Marion Public Library

I went to my library totally frustrated... I had tried both the Internet and the library to obtain information for my paper, which was on JIT (Just-In-Time manufacturing.) My librarian suggested that I try your website. I used it and to my amazement, over 190 articles appeared for my paper. This helped me tremendously and I thank you. I have told everyone I know about your service and how it has helped me...thank you.

Amy Chesterman

The new database, NetFirst, is a fantastic addition to the databases. It is very easy to use and simple to help others with that it takes out some of the stress of searching the World Wide Web. I also like the abstracts because they help save time that would be wasted.

Thanks for adding this database.

Dear Inspire staff:

Recently, I received a phone call from the social services director of our local hospital. She was desperately searching for information on Asperger's Syndrome. An 8 year old was recently diagnosed with Asperger's and his parents were in dire need of information not only for themselves, but for the child's teacher. The teacher was at a loss for teaching this child in a classroom setting, having never heard of Asperger's Syndrome and its characteristics.

One visit to Inspire provided pertinent information and full text articles on Asperger's, including a nine page article targeted especially for educators who work with Asperger's Syndrome students. In addition, there were suggested related topics for further research by the family. There was even a review of a recent book on Asperger's.

Needless to say, Inspire was invaluable for recent information provided by reputable sources. The social services director was extremely pleased with the results, and I was once again reminded of Inspire's value to the community.

Dianne Osborne,  
Public Services  
Librarian,  
Greenfield, IN



The Inspire database has amazing potential for spreading knowledge via the Internet. As a resident of the state of Indiana, I think that it is wonderful to have this resource at my fingertips. With a mere click of a few buttons, I can quickly access thousands of reliable sources on any of a wide variety of subjects. I consider it a real privilege to have that sort of vast repository of knowledge at my disposal.

The greatest triumph of the Internet is its ability to break down barriers and connect people in ways that no other technology ever has before. The state of Indiana could be heralded as a site of enlightenment unparalleled since the Great Library of Alexandria.

I am a journalist and use the database at my local public library for much of my research. I am absolutely thrilled to be able to access it from my home office.

Louisa Murzyn  
Munster, IN

I am a 46 year old MSW student at Indiana University South Bend. I live 51 miles from the campus, and I rue the extra trips to the library to do research. I am so excited to have access to Inspire from my home. I have, in one week, been able to print off articles for my research on substance use disorders in adolescents, information for a colleague about Glasser's Choice Theory as it relates to children who fail in school, and sundry other tidbits for my own enjoyment. Thank you to whomever made this site possible. I have passed the address on to others, and will continue to do so. What a marvelous resource. I appreciate it!

Kathy Rankin Simpson  
Warsaw, IN