

## News from Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

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### **New Online Learning Offerings: Brainfuse and Rocket Languages**

Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries (NLPL) is excited to announce the introduction of new resources in our Digital Library. As part of the province's Adult Literacy Action Plan and Initiative, NLPL has been able to purchase two new resources: Brainfuse and Rocket Languages. These programs will have a massive impact on our ability to assist the public by supporting and expanding on the opportunities already offered within NLPL's Digital Library.

These resources are adding to our already existing library of resources on the Digital Library section of the NLPL website. TumbleBooks is a great resource we've had for several years that offers interactive virtual books for children learning how to read. We have several eNewspaper and eMagazine subscription services including Pressreader and Flipster Magazines. We continue to offer CELA (Center for Equitable Library Access) digital resources for individuals who need alternate formats to traditional print materials.

BrainFuse has two options: JobNow and HelpNow. JobNow is focused on job and career skills while HelpNow is focused on academic skills. Both programs offer live tutoring between 2PM – 11PM (NST). HelpNow's tutoring covers all grades from kindergarten through post-secondary education. This tutoring can be done one-on-one or with groups if a student is looking for help with group projects. Outside of these live hours, you can submit questions or written work to get feedback from experts within 24 hours of submission.

JobNow has support for all steps of the job search process. The built-in SkillSurfer has a library of lessons and sample tests/quizzes on lots of subjects. This will assist users to identify areas that they need to improve within their desired field. Some of these tests/quizzes include ESL, computer and tech skills, and GED test prep.

Rocket Languages offers an enrichment and learning opportunity for those seeking to learn a new language. It offers courses on 14 different languages, including English, French, and ASL (American Sign Language). Throughout the lessons you can save personal and audio notes, whichever works best for your specific learning needs. There is an active community in the forums that is accessible through Rocket languages, meaning patrons can connect with people from around the world who are also trying to learn languages, and ask questions.

These programs can be found on our website under the Digital Library tab. Library staff should be able to help our patrons with getting started if they need assistance. Once you create an account with these services you can download a mobile app for your phone so you can learn on the go.

The most exciting part of these programs is that anyone with a library card has access to these services for free. Thanks to the Province's Adult Literacy Action Plan and Initiative we are able to make sure that any person who wishes to improve themselves or is seeking help for their children can do so at no charge to themselves. We look forward to seeing the impact that these programs make in our communities.