



NoveList: The Basics and Beyond

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About NoveList

NoveList is a fiction database that provides subject heading access, reviews, annotations, and much more for over 135,000 fiction titles. It also includes other content of interest to fiction readers, such as Author Read-alikes, What We're Reading, Book Discussion Guides, BookTalks, and Annotated Book Lists. For school media specialists and teachers there are Picture Book Extenders and articles on Teaching with Fiction.

Learning Center: Actually Useful Help Files

If you click on Help from any screen, you get a brief one-page list of features that doesn't tell much. However, if you select the Learning Center link, you'll find lots of easy-to-read tutorials at various levels of detail. The 1-Minute NoveList is perfect for showing patrons quickly how to use the database. More detailed information about Boolean searching, wildcards, and using an account.

Searching: Finding Read-Alikes

The most common use of NoveList is finding books similar to another book that the reader has enjoyed. On the home screen, there is a Quick Search option. More advanced search options are available under the Search our Database tab at the top. Here you can narrow the search by audience age range, number of pages, Lexile rating, and publication date. Best advanced search feature is Describe a Plot Search, which many patrons enjoy, but have a hard time finding. Select Boolean Search for the most advanced search options. The page for each book features subject headings and may include reviews, links to author information, award lists, discussion guides, external websites, and publication information. Don't miss the link to Maine InfoNet on each book page.

My NoveList

Under the Tools menu on the left, there is an option to sign in or create a personal account. This allows you to save lists of books or search results, and setup email alerts for new books. Adding items to a list does not save them if you log out. You must save the list manually or it will be lost.

Browse Lists

Includes award winners and many, many lists of sub-genres, e.g.: Paranormal Romances, Military and Naval Adventure Books in Series, Mysteries Set in Libraries, Pastoral Science Fiction, etc.

For Readers

Annotated book lists, author read-alikes, discussion guides for various audiences, and What We're Reading, monthly lists from prominent librarians and genre experts.

Readers' Advisory

Includes articles and training tools for library staff, including "Talking with Readers" -- a 132-page workbook (PDF format) on the process of doing a readers' advisory interview. Also includes articles on related topics, and a monthly newsletter on NoveList features.

School Resources

Extensive resources available for teachers and homeschoolers, including book talks for all ages, detailed discussion and study guides for popular YA novels and classics, activities to "extend" picture books, and Teaching with Fiction, a collection of works on various themes.



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