

# Guided Tour

A guide to getting started  
with Britannica



# Britannica Digital Learning



The screenshot shows the Britannica Digital Learning interface. At the top left is the '250 ANNIVERSARY' logo. Next to it is the text 'Britannica Digital Learning'. To the right is the 'ofg OUTCOMESFIRST GROUP' logo. Below the text, it says 'Select learning for any level.' and shows three tree icons of increasing size. Below each tree is a button labeled 'Foundation', 'Intermediate', and 'Advanced' respectively.

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[www.britannica.co.uk](http://www.britannica.co.uk)

 Britannica **IMAGEQUEST™**

## Access Details

<https://register.britannica.co.uk/NFA>

Access ID: **NFAstudent**

Our highly reputable editorial team, expertly create content at three levels to support pupils at every level of education.

Clicking on each of these levels will take you directly to the respective homepage.

# Britannica and the Outcomes First Group



The Outcomes First Group has invested in resources from Britannica Digital Learning to help support the challenges that looked after children and young people face when online. We know it is important for you as carers to feel assured that they are using a safe, reliable website and one that they are able to explore independently and unsupervised.

For 250 years, Encyclopaedia Britannica's editorial team have collaborated with experts, scholars and specialists to produce trusted content. Through working closely with carers, parents and educators we have been able to adapt this for the new generation of digital learners.

Our sources can be accessed online from any device, meaning that we're able to provide support wherever needed.

# Foundation Level

Built and designed with younger learners in mind, the engaging and eye-catching colours and images help to grasp and keep their attention. Regularly updated content makes the homepage the perfect place to find unique activities and discussion points.

The screenshot shows the Britannica School Foundation homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo, a search bar, and links for 'Students', 'Teachers', and 'Help'. Below the navigation bar, there is a banner for a lesson plan titled 'What Does It Mean?' about the Chinese zodiac cycle. The banner includes a text box with a reading passage and a multiple-choice question. Below the question are four buttons: 'pattern', 'celebration', 'collection', and 'tradition'. At the bottom of the banner, there is a row of six icons representing different content categories: 'ARTICLES', 'MEDIA', 'WORLD ATLAS', 'BIOGRAPHIES', 'ANIMAL KINGDOM', and 'FUNDAMENTALS! FOR EARLY LEARNERS'. A 'Show More' link is located to the right of the icons.

250 Britannica<sup>®</sup> School Foundation Search

Students Teachers Help

Para acceder a los recursos en español, ingrese aquí.

My Britannica : My Content | Lesson Plan Browse | Sign Out | ▶

## What Does It Mean?

Chinese years are named after 12 different animals. For example, there is a Year of the Rat and a Year of the Ox. Chinese New Year marks the start of the next animal's year. After 12 years, the **cycle** of animals repeats itself.

Choose the word that has the closest meaning to **cycle**.

**pattern** **celebration** **collection** **tradition**

ARTICLES MEDIA WORLD ATLAS BIOGRAPHIES ANIMAL KINGDOM FUNDAMENTALS! FOR EARLY LEARNERS

Show More

## Features Shortcuts

Allow young children the freedom to explore Britannica independently! Use the World Atlas to go on a virtual tour around the world, explore the Animal Kingdom or just enjoy some fun and games in Britannica Fundamentals

## Global Awareness

We believe it is crucial for children to gain an understanding of the world in which they live, not only through the content that we provide but also through engagement with current affairs around the world. From the homepage, children have access to the CBBC news headlines so that they regularly discuss and engage with up to date news.



# Intermediate Level

Content and format is adapted for a more mature child, however, resources can be used in a similar way - to inspire curiosity, engage in discussion and encourage independent learning. Additional features on the intermediate level include the Daily Buzzword, a tool designed to develop young peoples' vocabulary, and news headlines powered now by the BBC.

The screenshot shows the Britannica School Intermediate website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Britannica logo, a search bar, and links for Students, Teachers, and Help. Below the navigation bar, there is a secondary navigation bar with the text "My Britannica : My Content | Lesson Plan Browse | Sign Out |". The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a "Daily Buzzword" section for the word "agile", which is an adjective. It includes a pronunciation guide (\AJ-u\l), a speaker icon, and two columns of text: "What does it mean?" and "How do you use it?". Below this is a "Can You Guess?" section with three image-based questions: "Which 15th-century Italian artist designed a batlike flying machine?", "Why is the Atlantic the saltiest ocean?", and "What is amber?". On the right side, there is a vertical menu titled "Explore Britannica" with icons and links for Articles, Images and Videos, Biographies, World Atlas, Compare Countries, Tour Europe, My Content, and Lesson Plan Browse. At the bottom, there are two more sections: "Compare Countries" and "Explore Biographies".

## Compare Countries

The Compare Countries feature is powered by the World Bank meaning that these statistics are constantly updated and reliable. Use this feature to support global awareness and understanding of other countries around the world through non-bias, factual information.

## Biographies

The perfect starting point for young people to begin enquiry into people of a specific era or occupation. From the influential to the infamous, this feature will provide the facts, not the opinions. .

# Advanced Level

Content at the Advanced Level is designed to be of relevance to young people in Higher Education. Features such as Flash Facts and In Their Words are designed to develop critical thinking and mature debates. The news headlines are now powered through both BBC and The New York Times so as to allow young people scope to consider different perspectives.

The screenshot shows the Britannica School Advanced website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Britannica logo, the text "Advanced", a search bar, and links for "Students", "Teachers", and "Help". Below the navigation bar, there is a secondary bar with the text "Para acceder a los recursos en español, ingrese aquí." and "My Britannica" with links for "My Content", "Lesson Plan Browse", and "Sign Out".

The main content area features a large quote: "Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want, and deserve to get it good and hard." attributed to H.L. Mencken (born September 12, 1880—died January 29, 1956). Below the quote is a button that says "GIVE ME ANOTHER QUOTE".

Below the quote is a horizontal navigation bar with four tabs: "FLASH FACTS", "ON THIS DAY", "IN THEIR WORDS" (which is highlighted), and "SCIENCE IN PICTURES".

Underneath the tabs are several icons and links: "ARTICLE BROWSE", "WORLD ATLAS", "BIOGRAPHIES", "TOUR EUROPE", "COMPARE COUNTRIES", "MY CONTENT", and "MEDIA BROWSE".

There is a section titled "EXPLORE BIOGRAPHIES" with the text "Read more about the lives of the important, the influential, and the infamous." Below this are four dropdown menus: "Era", "Cultural Associati...", "Known for", and "Gender". To the right of these menus is a circular icon with two silhouettes of people. Below the dropdowns is a "Go!" button.

Below the "EXPLORE BIOGRAPHIES" section is a section titled "RECOMMENDED PRIMARY SOURCES" with the text "Find letters, speeches, and other primary".

At the bottom of the main content area, there is a "FLASH FACTS" section with three cards. The first card is titled "What Causes the Northern Lights?" and features a photo of the aurora borealis. The second card is titled "Scientists Identify Four Species of Giraffes" and features a photo of a giraffe. The third card is titled "What's the Difference Between Veins and Arteries?" and features a diagram of a heart.

## Media Browse

Explore a wide range of high quality multimedia resources to support research and develop understanding of a topic. This content varies to cover every corner of interest, from architecture, to life processes or sports.

## Primary Sources

Crucial to any successful research project is evidence of using both Primary and Secondary Sources. Here, young people have direct access to letters, speeches and other primary source material to broaden their research further.

# Supporting Young People's Learning

## Reading Levels

Support young people by changing the level of an article dependent on their ability. Changing to a lower level means that the text will be shorter and vocabulary more simple.

## Multimedia

Young people have access to a large range of high quality images and videos. These can be used to support their understanding and engagement with a topic or for discussion points!

The screenshot shows the Britannica School Intermediate search results for 'cells'. At the top, there are navigation options for 'Level 1', 'Level 2', and 'Level 3'. A sidebar on the left contains icons for various content types: ARTICLES, IMAGES, VIDEOS, DICTIONARY, JOURNALS, WEB'S BEST SITES, PRIMARY SOURCES / E-BOOKS, YEAR IN REVIEW, and LESSON PLANS. The main content area displays search results for 'cell (biology)', 'plant (biology)', and 'stem cell (biology)'. Each result includes a brief description and a star icon. Below the results, there are several images related to the search, including diagrams of plant cells and human cells.

## Literacy Support

We have put tools in place to support developing and reluctant readers. Use the Read Aloud tool to highlight the text whilst a neutral voice guides the young person through the text. Next, double click a word for the dictionary definition of that word!

## Translation Tool

Support your young person's English language development by translating content into their first language and then hovering over the translation to view the original text.

The screenshot shows the full article page for 'cell' on the Britannica School Intermediate website. The article title is 'cell' and it is categorized under 'Article'. The page includes a table of contents with sections like 'Introduction', 'Prokaryotes and Eukaryotes', and 'Cell Structure'. The 'Introduction' section is currently visible, featuring a diagram of a cell and text explaining the basic unit of life. The article reading level is set to 'Level 1'. At the bottom of the page, there is a section for 'Prokaryotes and Eukaryotes' with a sub-heading and a brief explanation of the differences between these two types of organisms.



# Challenging Young People's Learning

## Reading Levels

Young people can also challenge themselves by increasing the reading level of a text. This will mean that the content becomes more details and vocabulary more complex.

## Related

Encourage young people to expand their interest and develop their understanding by clicking on the related tab! Doing this will take them to further resources on a topic.

cell

Article Reading Level 1 2 3

Introduction

The smallest unit of living matter that can exist by itself is the cell. Some organisms, such as bacteria, consist of only a single cell. Others, such as humans and oak trees, are composed of many billions of cells.

Cells exist in a variety of shapes and sizes. Red blood cells are disk-shaped, while some skin cells resemble cubes. A single cell could be as large as a tennis ball or so small that thousands would fit on the period at the end of this sentence. Regardless of size, however, every cell contains the components needed to maintain life. Cells normally function with great efficiency, though they are vulnerable to disease. (See also [cancer](#); [disease](#); [human](#); [virus](#).)

Cell size is usually measured in microns. A micron is equal to about one millionth of a meter, and about 25,000 microns equal 1 inch. The smallest bacteria are about 0.2 micron in diameter. The diameter of the average human cell is roughly 10 microns, making it barely visible without a microscope.

The study of cells comprises the branch of biology called cytology, and the scientists who specialize in this field are called cytologists. A related field is [molecular biology](#), which examines large molecules such as nucleic acids and proteins and their roles in cell structure and function.

Prokaryotes and Eukaryotes

Based on fundamental differences in their cell structure, living organisms can be divided into two major groups—prokaryotes and eukaryotes. [Bacteria](#) and [archaea](#) are prokaryotes. [Animals](#), [plants](#), [fungi](#), and [protists](#) are eukaryotes. (See also [living things](#).)

manacle

**What does it mean?**

- 1: a shackle for the hand or wrist
- 2: handcuff
- 3: something that prevents free action

**How do you use it?**

Jack Sheppard was a notorious thief in early 18th-century London who managed to escape repeatedly from prison despite being held in the strongest cells, kept in solitary confinement, and bound to the floor by manacles.

**Can You Guess?**

Why was the Hindu temple Angkor Wat transformed into a Buddhist shrine?

Name the explorer who died in an attempt to rescue another explorer in the Arctic.

Why is the Atlantic the saltiest ocean?

## Daily Buzzword

Support the development of young people's vocabulary by encouraging them to take note of the Daily Buzzword. They could begin to build their own vocabulary banks as a daily activity at home.

## Independent Study

The homepage provides young people with constant information and tasks. Encourage independent research and exploration of these resources to help inspire their natural curiosity.



# Safeguarding Young People

## Safe

Britannica is an educational resource. Therefore, all information found within the site is non-bias and non-political. This means that young people can browse safely without seeing or reading anything inappropriate.

## Reliable

The content within Britannica is constantly being updated (on average, every twenty minutes!) Therefore, you can be assured that the information they are accessing is 100% accurate and reliable.

## Image Quest

Finding appropriate images online can sometimes be very difficult! However, access to ImageQuest. This means that they have access to millions of educationally appropriate images that are also safe and free to download.

The screenshot shows the Britannica School Intermediate website. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'Students', 'Teachers', and 'Help'. Below the search bar, there is a green banner for 'Daily Buzzword' featuring the word 'manacle' with its definition and usage. To the right, there is a sidebar titled 'Explore Britannica' with links to 'ARTICLES', 'IMAGES AND VIDEOS', 'BIOGRAPHIES', 'WORLD ATLAS', 'COMPARE COUNTRIES', 'TOUR EUROPE', and 'MY CONTENT'. Below the 'Daily Buzzword' section, there is a 'Can You Guess?' section with three image-based questions. At the bottom, there are sections for 'Compare Countries' and 'Explore Biographies'.

The screenshot shows the Britannica ImageQuest website. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'Project Ideas', 'Help', and 'My Images'. Below the search bar, there is a banner with the text 'Millions of rights-cleared images from one trusted site.' and a search bar. Below the banner, there is a grid of images. At the bottom, there are four sections: 'Get a jump start', 'Learn with projects', 'See what's new', and 'Our collections'. Each section has a brief description and a link to the relevant content.

# My Britannica

Encourage young people to set themselves up with their own personal My Britannica area. Here, their teachers, carers and they themselves are able to view their favoured content and organise it into Resource Packs. To favourite any resource, simply click on the star that appears on the tool bar. Favourited content will then appear in the My Content section.

The screenshot shows the 'My Content' page for a user named Estout. The page is titled 'My Content' and features a sidebar on the left with 'Welcome, Estout', 'All Favourites 10 items', and a 'Create a new resource pack!' button. The main content area is titled 'Favourites and Resource Packs' and shows a pack named 'Environment'. The pack contains 1 video, 5 articles, and 4 images. There are buttons for 'Edit / Add Content' and 'Filter by content type:'. Two articles are displayed: 'pollution' and 'deforestation'. Each article has a thumbnail image, a title, a brief description, and a notes section for taking notes.

## How should young people use Resource Packs?

Resource Packs are a great way for young people to organise revision for exams. They can use the notes section to summarise what they have learnt from a resource. They can also use Resource Packs to organise research on a particular topic! They can then share their Resource Pack with teachers or carers!

## How should carers use Resource Packs?

To support with your young person's Personal Education Plan, we would encourage carers to make up a Resource Pack and pose questions to them within the notes section. This is a great tool for young people that are reluctant readers and who find independent research difficult.

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# Notes

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