What is RILINK?

RILINK is a cooperative effort by Rhode Island school librarians sharing their resources through an interactive web-based network. Students and teachers at RILINK member schools use the network to find information, browse their own library’s resources, and request books or other items from other member libraries. Currently, over 200 school libraries in 35 school districts share their resources and expertise to provide better service to their more than 110,000 students and teachers. RILINK serves over 70% of Rhode Island K-12 students, including students in 17 charter/private schools as well as at the Family Literacy Center in Lincoln.

Through RILINK and its online web-based network, students and teachers have access to more than two million books and audiovisual items and more than 100,000 subject-based web links that are K-12 appropriate, chosen for their relevance to curriculum subjects. Through the statewide Library of Rhode Island (LORI) network, they also have access to the books and other resources in Rhode Island public and academic libraries. If what is needed can’t be found in Rhode Island, the LORI Interlibrary Loan Clearinghouse will forward their requests throughout the entire library world, through the OCLC international catalog and interlibrary loan system.

Literally the entire world is open to students and teachers at RILINK schools, even to those students who cannot get to their local public libraries and must rely on whatever they can get through their school library.

RILINK members also receive:

★ On-site training and support
★ Professional development
★ Discounts for books and online subscriptions
★ Subscription to ProQuest’s CultureGrams
★ Subscription to Exploring Nature
★ Access to shared eBook collection (BookLynx)
★ Subscription to LibGuides CMS to build web-based research and curriculum resources

RILINK knows its Destiny…

Destiny is Follett’s web-based library automation software. RILINK offers a shared Destiny system for Rhode Island school libraries, which we call RICAT. When a school library joins our RICAT system, all that is needed locally is a computer, laptop, or mobile device and an Internet connection. Librarians, library staff, teachers, students, and parents have access to the school’s library collection anytime, anywhere they have access to the web.

RILINK hosts the Destiny software on its own server, removing this need at the local level. Students can have access to library resources from home without having to open the district network to outside traffic. System hardware and software maintenance, backups, and training are all provided by RILINK. Software upgrades are done at the central site and are available immediately to users.

RILINK's mission is to foster innovative learning and creative research in school libraries through partnerships and resource sharing for student success.

Check it out at [www.ricat.net](http://www.ricat.net). Each member library can have its own web page with links to local school pages as well as Internet resources and online subscriptions. Access to administrative functions is provided by password. Each library can set up its own protocols and change them at any time, as needed. It’s all done through the web. When adding books and other items to the catalog, librarians have access to millions of catalog records which are downloaded directly into the system when selected, if the item is not already in the RICAT database. New books can be available to students and teachers almost immediately with full subject access to each title.

Most entries include content annotations as well as interest and reading levels. The software supports searches by Lexiles and by reading level for a variety of reading programs such as Fountas and Pinnell and Accelerated Reader.

Funding for this program was awarded by the RI Office of Library and Information Services, using funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the Library Services and Technology Act.
With Collections, librarians can curate materials for the classroom, teachers can pair content to instruction and students can be more actively engaged in learning. You can easily add resources from the new and growing national Open Educational Resources database. Share your collections publicly, within your district/school or with only a few people. There is no limit to how many collections you can create in a single Destiny account.

Collections is available for both the desktop and mobile versions of Destiny. It works on any device or browser, and is also accessible through the Destiny Discover mobile app. Here is a sample of materials from a Collection called Women in the Civil War:

**What does it cost?**

RILINK annual dues are $1.50 per student. Dues cover local support and training, administration and technical support provided by RILINK staff with the East Bay Educational Collaborative, Internet communications through OSHEAN, plus software and equipment maintenance for the servers and other central site equipment. RILINK also offers BookLynx, a shared eBook collection available to students and teachers at member schools.

The initial software license, including all of the first year costs for Destiny, is $2,500 through RILINK. After the first year, annual costs for Follett/Destiny are approximately $700 per site, per year. This includes subscription access to Alliance+ (Follett’s cataloging database) and OneSearch plus TitlePeek, which displays the book cover and varied content such as table of contents, brief summary, author notes, published reviews and more.

Annual subscription options available to enhance the district’s investment in the school library include:

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Annual Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Web Path Express</td>
<td>Links to thousands of curriculum-based, authoritative sites on the Web, all K-12 educator-evaluated, checked regularly for availability.</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accelerated Reader</td>
<td>Finds AR levels and quiz information for the books in your library. With the Enterprise version of AR, provides automatic updates.</td>
<td>$225</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standards</td>
<td>Aligns your school library resources and WebPath Express links to Common Core as well as Rhode Island Standards.</td>
<td>$345</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fountas and Pinnell</td>
<td>Finds reading levels for books in your collection, making it easier to implement the Guided Reading approach in classrooms. $149 per site annually after the first year.</td>
<td>$199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexiles</td>
<td>Finds and identify books in your collection by Lexile text measure, helping to match readers with the right texts. $149 per site annually after the first year.</td>
<td>$199</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biblionasium</td>
<td>Students are just a single sign-on away from Biblionasium’s great features that promote healthy reading habits while generating actionable data for educators when you integrate this service with Destiny. <strong>Pricing:</strong> Less than 500 Students: $199 per site Greater than 500 Students: $249 per site 6 - 30 sites = 5% discount per site 30+ sites = 10% discount per site</td>
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**Searches** in RICAT can also link to digital resources, such as streaming video from Discovery Education and eBooks. Searches will find information in online subscription databases, including those available free to all Rhode Islanders through AskRI.org. Your tax dollars at work!

Library resources for students and teachers: Now available anywhere, anytime.