

# The Stacks Platform

**A System for Onsite Access to Rights  
Restricted Digital Content at the  
Library of Congress**

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# What is Stacks?

- An access system for rights-restricted Library of Congress digital collections
  - Content the Library has custody/ownership of—not rental/subscription service
  - Content can be made available to all Stacks terminals and staff
  - Users can search, view, and print portions of works but cannot download or export content
  - Stacks is a Python/Flask/Elasticsearch application

The screenshot shows the Library of Congress Stacks website. At the top left is the 'LIBRARY OF CONGRESS' logo. To its right is the word 'STACKS'. In the top right corner, there is a user greeting 'Hello Owens, Trevor' and a 'Rights and Access' link. Below this is a search bar with 'Everything' selected and a search button. A link for 'Advanced Search' is also visible. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a 'Welcome!' section with a brief introduction and a link to 'Frequently Asked Questions'. The right column has a 'Getting Started' section with instructions on how to search and a list of three links: 'How to print materials', 'Viewing items with simultaneous readers', and 'Using advanced search'. Below these sections is a 'Stacks at a Glance' section with six cards displaying statistics: 'Current number of books: 172,200', 'Current number of newspaper titles: 891', 'Current number of newspaper issues: 433,517', 'Current number of journal titles: 1,021', 'Current number of journal issues: 116,838', and 'Current number of journal articles: 759,439'.

Stacks at a Glance		
Current number of books:	Current number of newspaper titles:	Current number of newspaper issues:
<b>172,200</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>433,517</b>
Current number of journal titles:	Current number of journal issues:	Current number of journal articles:
<b>1,021</b>	<b>116,838</b>	<b>759,439</b>

# Digital Collections Strategy

- Access to rights restricted content is a key part of our overall Digital Collections Strategy
- Future work in this area focused on working to ensure the broadest access to rights restricted content
- <https://blogs.loc.gov/thesignal/2021/12/library-of-congress-digital-collections-strategy-published/>

## Digital Collections Strategy Objectives

### 1. Expand Access

**1.1) Expand and routinize acquisition and access of openly licensed and openly available digital works:** Few library organizations are prioritizing acquiring and hosting copies of openly licensed digital works. As a result, large amounts of openly licensed works are at risk of being lost. In line with the Collections Policy Statements, the Library will play a key role in enabling enduring access to this content. In the case of openly licensed content, given the terms of the licenses, acquiring and making available this content is in direct accord with the wishes of content creators. In contrast, acquiring and enabling access to openly available content without open licenses requires considerable effort and time to secure rights to acquire individual works.

**1.2) Pursue a coordinated program of policy and IT infrastructure development to enable the broadest possible access to rights restricted content:** Major progress has been made in enabling access to rights restricted content in the Library's collection. This is an essential component of building a robust collection of contemporary works in accord with the rights of content creators. However, there are substantial areas of policy and digital infrastructure that are still needed to enable the broadest usability of this content. Areas to explore include: interlibrary loan of digital content and other circulation of content; remote access to content for short periods of time; enabling non-consumptive use; providing portions of works as part of reference services; and enabling remote full text search but not fully rendering works.

**1.3) Develop and implement an integrated strategy for discovery of digital and analog collections materials:** Discovery of digital collections content currently requires use of multiple independent systems including the Library of Congress website, the Library of Congress Catalog, the E-Resources Online Catalog, and a range of other systems and APIs. Along with this, there are inconsistencies in practices for cataloging and metadata for digital collections. As the Library works to implement a new Library Collections Access Platform, it will be necessary to pursue parallel efforts to standardize practices and develop a coherent overall strategy for the creation, management, and integration of metadata for digital collections content.

# Why Stacks

Significant quantities of **digital collection materials** acquired through copyright deposit, purchase, gift, transfer and exchange **can only be made available onsite**

As preservation reformatting shifts away from microfilming to **digitization** the Library is beginning to produce extensive sets of digitized items that require a secure access method

**LIBRARY** LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

STACKS

Hello Owens, Trevor [Rights and Access](#)

Books Search [Advanced Search](#)

Results 1-50 of more than 10,000 | Refined by: [Format: Books](#) [Display Level: Title](#)

Refine your search

Available Online  
 All Items

Format [+](#)

Display Level [-](#)  
Title [x](#)  
Volume 4,485

Date [+](#)

Country or Territory [-](#)  
United States 114,391  
Germany 28,449  
United Kingdom 18,127  
Singapore 4,319  
Netherlands 2,154  
India 811  
Colombia 393  
France 311  
Argentina 310  
Pakistan 243  
[More Countries and Territories >>](#)

State [-](#)  
New York 36,835  
Maryland 17,610  
England 17,572

View [Grid](#) [Go](#) Sort By [Date](#) [Go](#)

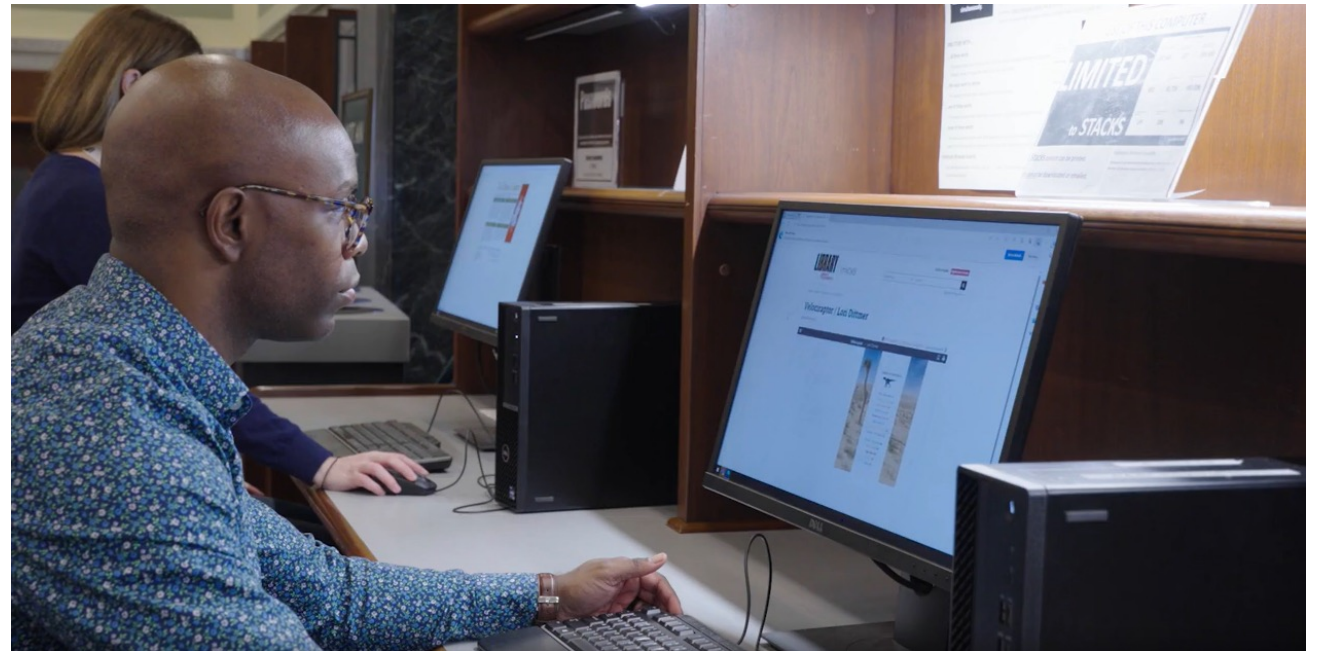
Book covers shown include: CRIME AND DISORDER IN COMMUNITY CONTEXT, MINECRAFT, BASKETBALL, La serpiente, HAMMERHEAD SHARKS, SAND TIGER SHARKS, KILLER BEES, FIRE ANTS, EL SERVICIO SECRETO, CIA, EL MOSQUITO, BUILDING YOUR CAREER AS A STATISTICIAN, WHO'S AFRAID OF THE MONSTER?, THE LOUSY LAYUP, TIME TRAVEL TERROR, BREAKING APART INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND ABUSE, LAST GAMER, FROM THE PRIVILEGED TO THE PROFESSIONALS, Transformation, Agency and the Economy, BREATHE FOCUS EXCEL.



## Stacks: Public Access

Terminals available to registered patrons in the...


- African and Middle Eastern Reading Room
- Asian Reading Room
- Folklife Reading Room
- European Reading Room
- Geography & Map Reading Room
- Hispanic Reading Room
- La Follette Congressional Reading Room
- Law Library Reading Room
- Manuscript Reading Room
- Microform and Electronic Resources Center (MERC)



- Moving Image Research Center
- Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room
- Performing Arts Reading Room
- Recorded Sound Research Center
- Science and Business Reading Room

## Stacks: Discovery

- All Stacks content is discoverable in the LC Online Catalog
- Links to Stacks are added to holdings records at the title or collection level

1  


BOOK

Sommer, Carl, 1930-  
[Ugly caterpillar / by Carl Sommer ; illustrated by Greg Budwine.](#)  
Houston : Advance Publishing, Inc., 2014.  
Electronic Resource  
[Onsite Access Only](#)

### Item Availability

CALL NUMBER	Electronic Resource
Request in	Onsite Access Only
Links available	Available onsite via Stacks. v.61 (2018)-v.63 (2020) All issues within this range might not be available. <a href="https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gdc/edepo.2021207250">https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gdc/edepo.2021207250</a>

## Stacks: What's There Now

- ~510,000 [newspaper](#) and [legal gazette](#) issues including, copyright deposits, international newspapers, and legal gazettes
- ~172,000 [books](#), mostly from cataloging-in-publication
- ~759,000 [journal articles](#) and ~108,000 [journal issues](#) received through copyright deposit and purchase from 1,021 [titles](#)
- 1,613 [music scores](#)
- 17 [moving images](#) and 171 [audio recordings](#)
- 244 [map sets](#) totaling over 65,000 images
- 16 [microfilm sets](#) totaling over 1.8 million images
- [Born-digital manuscript content](#) from the Manuscript Division
- 1,571 [CD-ROMs and Disks](#) from the general collections totaling over 1.1 million files

The screenshot displays the Library of Congress Stacks interface. At the top, the 'LIBRARY OF CONGRESS' logo is on the left, and 'STACKS' is in the center. A search bar on the right contains the text 'Everything' and a search icon. Below the search bar, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Stacks > Newspapers > The Wichita eagle > 2023-08-31'. The main content area shows the newspaper title 'THE WICHITA EAGLE' and the date 'Thursday, August 31, 2023'. A search bar at the top of the newspaper page contains the word 'energy' and shows '1 of 8 matches'. The main headline is 'State regulators say Evergy's rate hikes go too far'. Below the headline, there are several columns of text, including a byline 'BY MATTHEW KELLY' and a sub-headline 'State regulators say Evergy's proposed rate increase for 736,000 Kansas utilities customers is too high.' To the right of the main text, there is a sidebar with a photo of a street scene and a headline 'Overtime pay would cover millions more under proposed rule'.