



## ***SIRS Issues Researcher & SIRS Discoverer vs. Google and the Open Web***

<b>SIRS Content and Tools for Students &amp; Teachers for <u>21<sup>st</sup> Century Teaching and Learning</u></b>	<b><u>Google</u> and Web Surfing for Content and Tools for Inquiry-Based Learning</b>
<p>Why do so many teachers and students rely on Google and other Internet surfing when their ProQuest library digital solutions are custom designed to support K-12 teaching and learning? <i><u>Don't they know that . . . . .</u></i></p>	<p>Do professionals such as doctors, lawyers, and engineers Google for information to service clients? Don't these professionals rely on CUSTOM databases and publications to keep them current, and help analyze and solve client problems?</p>
<p><b>100%</b> of SIRS teaching and learning resources are curriculum-relevant, <u>standards-based</u>, and access a variety <u>editorially selected</u>, copyrighted, publisher quality media types.</p>	<p><b>Less than 10%</b> of Google is K-12 <b>curriculum-relevant</b>, and is <b>limited to websites</b>; most are consumer oriented, <b>distracting</b> to students, and many are from sources that are <b>questionable</b> or even <b>inappropriate</b>.</p>
<p><b>Lexile</b> and SIRS <u>reading scores</u> for each article help teachers to help students select articles they can <b>read and understand to <u>differentiate learning</u></b>.</p>	<p><b>NO</b> equivalent research-proven tool available to guide students and teachers in differentiating instruction and learning.</p>
<p>Teachers can access a variety of free SIRS-specific inquiry-based <u>learning activities</u> that <b>integrate <u>21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills</u> and <u>critical thinking</u></b>.</p>	<p>Google can access lesson plan websites, but busy teachers will have to do the <b>necessary selection, adaptation, and correlation</b> to state standards.</p>
<p><u>21<sup>st</sup> Century (WEB 2.0) tools</u> for students to organize, analyze, and report/present what they have learned using integrated <u>critical thinking skills</u>.</p>	<p>Google provides student applications for organizing information sources and then and publishing in a variety of formats. Applications are <b>not integrated</b> as with SIRS.</p>
<p><u>Visual Browse</u> and <u>Audio Reader</u> provide essential <b>multi-sensory</b> support for <b>ELL</b> and other <b>challenged readers</b> who are at risk of dropping out of school.</p>	<p>Audio reader tool included <b>but not student paced</b>. <b>NO integrated Visual Browse</b> of content.</p>
<p>Support for <u>21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacies</u> by addressing <u>300 real-world issues</u> with an integrated <b>global perspective</b> and critical thinking models that support teaching and learning.</p>	<p><b>NO</b> equivalent student and teacher content provided.</p>
<p>FREE <u>Webinar</u> training courses, and <u>Podcasts</u>, and fee-based in-person <u>professional development</u> for CEUs.</p>	<p><b>NO</b> equivalent student and teacher training provided.</p>
<p><b>Curriculum guides</b> show teachers how to use information to develop <b>critical thinking and problem solving skills</b>—<u>SIRS Issues Researcher</u>, <u>SIRS Discoverer</u>, and <u>SIRS Decades</u>.</p>	<p><b>NO</b> equivalent student and teacher tool provided.</p>
<p><u>Standards Searching</u> ensures teachers that the resources they select and save/print for use in classroom discussions and student notebooks, address a specific state standard.</p>	<p><b>NO</b> equivalent student and teacher tool provided.</p>
<p><u>My List</u>, <u>MLA Citation Generator</u>, <u>Notes Organizer</u>, and <b>email</b> help students to collect, save, and <b>organize</b> SIRS resources for use in reports and presentations.</p>	<p>Google provides Notes Organizer and other publishing applications but <b>not integrated Citation tool</b> and My List.</p>
<p>Support <u>school leader priorities</u> for 21<sup>st</sup> Century literacy and skill development.</p>	<p>Content filtering, low K-12 relevancy, surfing supervision, <b>significantly reduce Time on Task for learning</b>.</p>
<p><b>Editor summaries</b> for articles and websites help students save valuable classroom time in selecting relevant content.</p>	<p>Summaries are auto generated highlighting key words and; <b>not tailored</b> to the curriculum needs of students</p>
<p><b>Student-safe</b>, editor-selected, publisher quality content and websites eliminates the need for teacher “snoopervision” and avoid related discipline problems. <b>No time wasting distractions</b>. Teachers have time to support learning. <b>Less searching &amp; distraction = more learning</b>.</p>	<p><b>Supervision a must</b> to avoid inappropriate resources and attendant discipline problems. No time for coaching and student support.</p>