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By Jean Kornowa, Library Media Specialist and Melissa Fitzgerald, English Teacher, Washington Local Schools.

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## ancestry library edition

*ProQuest Ancestry Library Edition is part of the Ohio Web Library core set of databases purchased by Libraries Connect Ohio through a federal IMLS LSTA grant awarded by the State Library of Ohio. Ancestry Library Edition went live July 1, 2011 for a one year trial subscription. Ancestry Library Edition delivers billions of records in census data, vital records, directories, photos, and more, contained in over 7,000 databases. Unlike most Ohio Web Library databases, it is available via on-site library access only (no remote access).*

*Libraries Connect Ohio partners INFOhio, OhioLINK, and OPLIN make the suite of Ohio Web Library databases available to users of school, academic, and public libraries across Ohio. Ancestry Library Edition, while of interest to genealogists and researchers, has also proven to be a boon in the schools where it has become a valuable resource for student projects. Here is one school's experience.*

At Whitmer High School (Washington Local Schools) in Toledo, one of the English teachers was very happy to see that INFOhio had added Ancestry Library Edition, as she does a project every year involving genealogy. This year locating the necessary information was made easier through the use of this new product. Thanks INFOhio! It also makes my job as a Library Media Specialist easier, as I have another valuable resource to offer to my staff and students.

- Jean Kornowa

For my African American Literature class, I have my students complete an ancestral chart that documents five generations of their family. This takes my students as far back as their great-great grandparents. Many of their families do not have this information. Ancestry Library Edition becomes a great resource for many students to find information about their families, including where they lived, what they did and who they married. My students get excited about this project and the Ancestry link, because they usually know very little about their extended family, and this affords them the opportunity to learn about their history. This becomes an important lesson which links to the Reconstruction period in history when newly freed blacks sought information about their families and attempted to reconnect their lives.

- Melissa Fitzgerald