

Will
get back
to me
in August
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DALNET Children's Web Pac Committee

Children's OPAC Interface Needs Statement of Specifications

The purpose of this document is to describe the needs and specifications for the Detroit Public Library's children's online catalog interface, including other DALNET member libraries. This online catalog should be an easily customizable, standard Web-based HTML interface that will be accessible via any Web browser, anywhere, at any time. Our goal is to provide a powerful, fun and easy way for children to access Detroit Public Library's online catalog. The Detroit Public Library needs a Web Pac interface where children can point and click on graphics or simple text, accessing a robust and intuitive graphics driven interface. Some of the users of the children's interface may be adults whose experience with reading English is limited or English is their second language, therefore it is important that this Web Pac interface will be easy to use and fun, time and again for children and adults.

1. Pre-defined searches modeled after templates so that librarians (non-programmers) can set up new pre-defined searches.
2. Capability to limit searches by branch, location, or collection.
3. Have full access to the entire catalog, ~~if~~ ^{where} desired.
4. GRAPHICS with low-resolution for fast loading, installation of a wide choice of graphics/images that can be changed and re-set, and the ability to change topics, icons, and fonts.
5. Allow students to type in title, author, and keyword or browse collections.
6. Fast navigation from screen to screen and fast response time for searches.
7. Compatible with epixtech, fully integrated with Horizon database, and Z39.50 compliant.
8. Consistent look throughout interface.
9. Suggested initial screen choices for accessing catalog information are: **Help or Type it**, these would be predefined searches; **Choose it or Find it**, these would be predefined keywords; and **Picture it**, which would be predefined searches with images to click on.
10. Choices for level of audience, i.e. Child or Young Adult.

11. Have spell check for searches or automatically find word/spelling variations.
12. Have ~~context~~ ^{concept?} searching or synonym searching.
13. Choose to select language or to limit search by language, i.e. Spanish language books.
14. Needs to be compatible with filtering software, in compliance per sifa, with Federal, state and local laws.
15. Interface with large fonts for easier reading for both children and adults.

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NOTE to LCC's
docent

result set ranking
NO Dead end workflow