



As a Librarian in the Tertiary system for a number of years I can attest that students often lack important information literary skills when they begin a university degree.

At the University of Newcastle we strive to bring lower socio-economic groups to university. The equity unit brings students and parents to the library and other units to introduce to them to university life.

We provide them with a product called Hyperjinks: an information literacy tutorial developed by the library helps to improve information literacy standards for these students and parents encouraging them to seek out further education.

Hyperjinks has been specifically prepared for primary school children. There appears to be a need to improve skills at this point as children are exposed to the internet early and can develop poor searching skills. Therefore it is vital there is intervention by a trained librarian before they meander through High School and land at University unprepared to cope with the rigour of research and academic writing.

Thank you.

Debbie Posker  
Library Services  
Academic Division  
University of Newcastle  
Callaghan NSW 2308 Australia