

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS  
FOR  
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

**FINDINGS**

**1. Authorization:**

19 DCMR § 4320.7.

**2. Minimum Need:**

Scholastic - Renewal of Subscription to Bookflix, TrueFlix and FreedomFlix online literary resources.

**3. Estimated Fair and Reasonable Price:**

\$32,874.00

**4. Facts That Justify a Sole Source Procurement:**

The mission of the District of Columbia Public Library is equitable access to information tailored to customer needs, equipping people to learn all their lives, to embrace diversity and to build a thriving city. To support the mission, the Library has need of online tools, available both in the libraries and remotely, to provide information to customers varying in age, education, and ethnic background and the wide breadth of information they request on a daily basis.

**BookFlix** is an online literacy resource that pairs 95 classic fictional video storybooks from Weston Woods with related nonfiction eBooks from Scholastic so children have the opportunity to practice their reading skills with both types of text. In addition, each BookFlix pair enables early readers to develop essential real-world knowledge and introduces children to a world of exploration – it's a direct path to deepening a love of reading and learning.

Each BookFlix pair features an animated fictional video storybook from Weston Woods matched with a related nonfiction eBook from Scholastic. Sample pairs include: *Click Clack Moo Cows that Type* and *Let's Visit a Dairy Farm*; *Chicka Chicka 1,2,3* and *Everyone Uses Math*; and *Duck for President* and *Election Day*. BookFlix also features Spanish translations of 25 pairs so children and their families can interact with books and build a love of reading in their native language.

After children have watched the fictional video storybook, then read the related nonfiction eBook, they have the opportunity to show what they have learned through educational games and activities that reinforce vocabulary, reading comprehension and

identifying the difference between fact and fiction. Additionally, patrons can “meet” the author of the fictional book by reading a brief biography of the author and extend their learning by visiting three to four web sites on the topic. Scholastic’s editorial team has identified these web sites as age-appropriate, academically-relevant and published by a credible source and offers an easy way for young children to begin to use the internet for research and learning. Finally, parents and librarians will find several resources that explain how to incorporate BookFlix into the library’s programs or for use at home.

Designed to be used independently at home or in the library or as part of a “digital” story time activity or summer reading program, *BookFlix* features numerous audio supports so children of all reading abilities – emergent readers, English language learners, and struggling readers – can interact with the program. Remote access allows patrons to use the program at home, or anywhere there is an internet connection, as well as on mobile devices.

**TrueFlix** is a nonfiction online resource that leverages the award-winning True Books content to help students hone literacy skills, build knowledge of subject-area content, and cultivate 21st Century skills through the inquiry process.

True Flix includes these features:

- Whiteboard resource with its collection of introductory videos and media types, leveled texts, voice-over reading features, and soft assessments
- Allows students to graduate from "learning to read" to "reading to learn" and master content area knowledge in science and social studies
- Supports the Common Core Standards with its featuring of multiple text types and a cross-curricular, nonfiction focus with a soft assessment feature

**Freedomflix** is a new history resource for children that provides access to Dynamic e-books with read-aloud option and the following popups embedded

- maps – timelines, short biographies – virtual tour clips, slideshows – panoramas, primary source audio and video and facsimile documents

Other unique features include :

- Engaging videos that build on the “living history” theme
- Related content that provides opportunities for further research across a variety of text types
- Fiction elements including stories, plays, poems and project idea that provides a project topic and goal along with ideas to kickstart research

Scholastic is the sole source provider for these 3 online resources.

**5. Certification By the Contract Specialist:**

I hereby certify that the above facts are accurate and complete.

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Contract Specialist

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

**DETERMINATION**

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the DCPL procurement regulations, 19 DCMR § 4320.7 I hereby determine that the award of a sole source contract for the services described herein is in the best interest of the D.C. Public Library.

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Contracting Officer

\_\_\_\_\_

Date