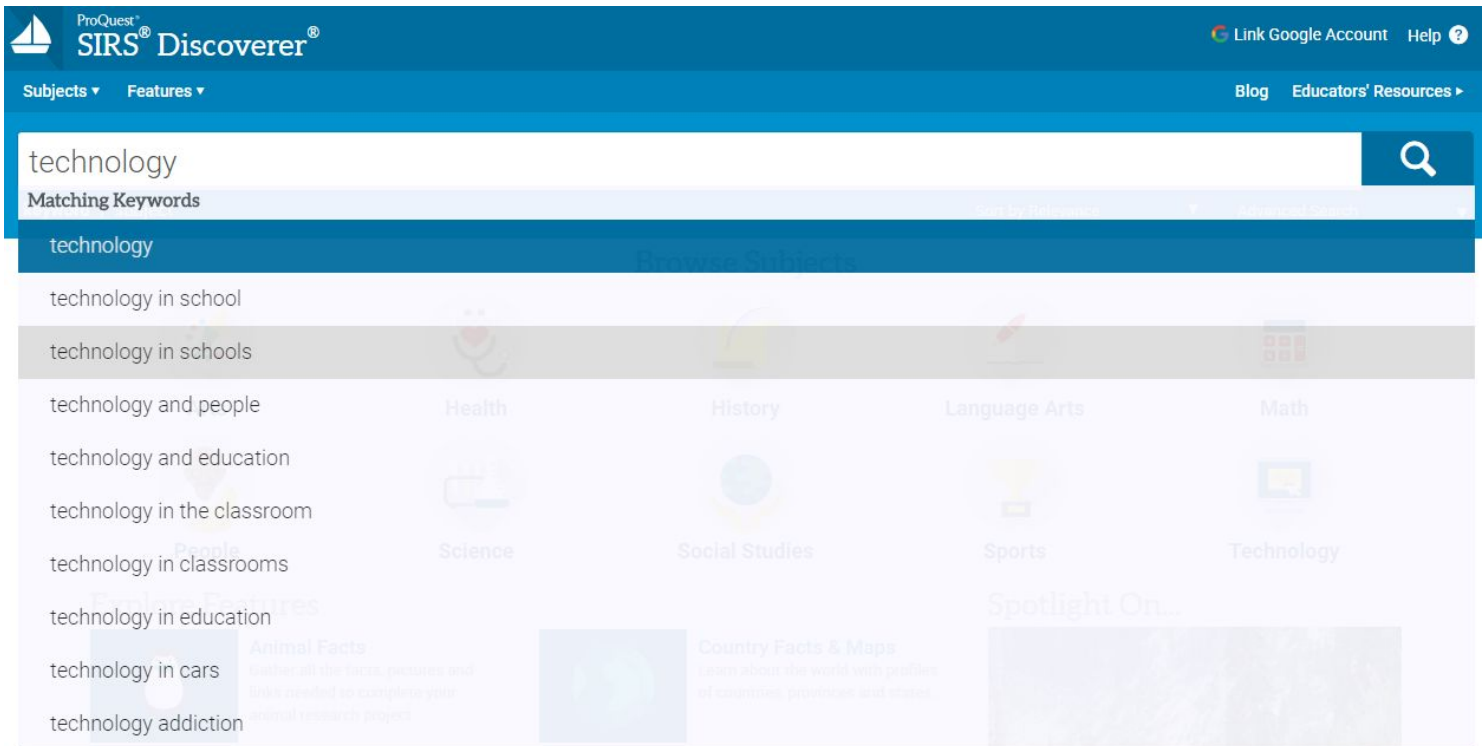
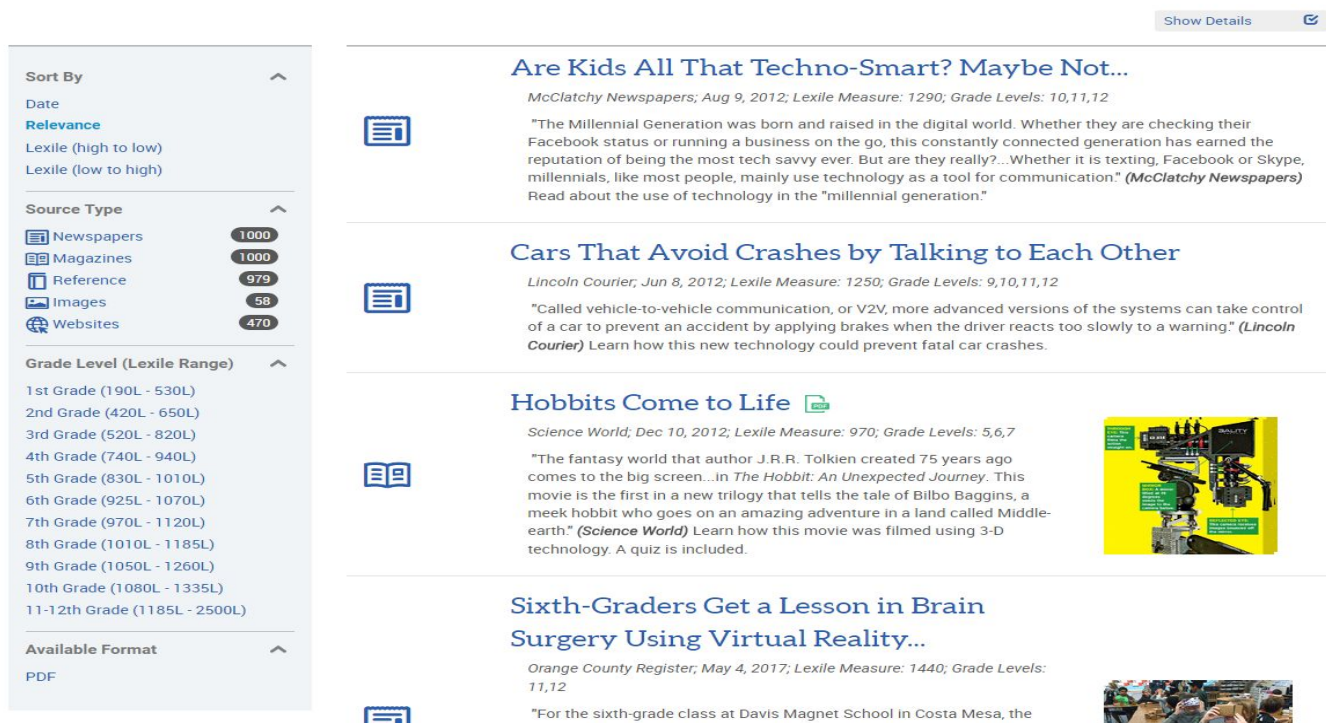


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Hobbits Come to Life

Science World; Dec 10, 2012; Lexile Measure: 970; Grade Levels: 5,6,7

"The fantasy world that author J.R.R. Tolkien created 75 years ago comes to the big screen...in *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*. This movie is the first in a new trilogy that tells the tale of Bilbo Baggins, a meek hobbit who goes on an amazing adventure in a land called Middle-earth." (*Science World*) Learn how this movie was filmed using 3-D technology. A quiz is included.

Can Your Phone Testify Against You?

New York Times Upfront; Sep 1, 2014; Lexile Measure: 1220; Grade Levels: 9,10,11,12

"When the Founding Fathers sat down to write of Rights in the late 1700s, they made sure that the First Amendment protected the right to free speech (among other things) and that the Fourth Amendment protected the right to privacy. But the Framers could never have imagined anything like smartphones, Facebook, and Google--or how much of the world's interactions today, from socializing to conducting business, would take place digitally." (*New York Times Upfront*) Read more about how "the courts have begun wrestling with a host of questions raised by technology" and how the Supreme Court arrived at its decisions.

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HOBBITS COME TO LIFE

High-tech visual effects bring the world of *The Hobbit* to the big screen

The fantasy world that author J.R.R. Tolkien created 75 years ago comes to the big screen this December in *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*. This movie is the first in a new trilogy that tells the tale of Bilbo

on an amazing adventure in a land called Middle-earth.

The Hobbit is a prequel to the *Lord of the Rings* movie trilogy, the first of which was released 11 years ago. It features hobbits, dwarves, elves, wizards, and even a dragon. To bring such fantastic characters and

Peter Jackson filmed in 3-D using cutting-edge technology and visual effects. "Visual effects are used to create the illusion of reality where none exists," says Joe Letteri, the visual-effects supervisor on *The Hobbit*, which was filmed in New Zealand. Here's how some of the

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