Exploration is not just about searching. Users have multiple needs: some may be looking for specific, known items, others require a broad selection of material, and some researchers may need the latest content on a very particular topic.

While most discovery tools stop at finding items based on a search, it is essential to provide users with smart exploration tools that enhance knowledge, provide an opportunity for fresh encounters with information, and spark new research directions.

**Powerful research paths**

Give patrons a taste of other directions for their research.

**Recommendations & references**

Deliver relevant recommendations and information within the initial results list.

**Richer learning experience**

Provide intuitive ways for users to discover relevant content.

Creating an enhanced discovery experience

**Big data analytics and local expertise for smart exploration tools**

By consolidating, matching, and correlating data from multiple sources, we can expose relationships between resources and pinpoint relevant materials. Such data points and sources include:

- Metadata and full text
- Search logs
- Selection & usage patterns
- Taxonomies and thesauri
- Library expertise

**Embedding Exploration into Discovery**

These tools are already available for users to extend their research and discover related resources:

- **Citation Trail**
  Explore a topic and collect related materials by following a chain of articles that cite each other.

- **Topic Explorer**
  Explore topics and material about them by browsing through a topic exploration trail.

- **Database and Resource Recommender**
  Discover other resources, such as library topic pages, topic experts, or specialized tools and databases.

- **bX Article Recommender**
  View articles that are related to an article of interest and navigate onward to additional sets of related articles, based on anonymous usage data from millions of users around the world.

- **Virtual Browse**
  Navigate stacks, as if you are exploring the physical bookshelves themselves, starting with one item of interest and browsing its vicinity.

**Contact us today to learn more about the Ex Libris Primo and Summon discovery services.**

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