The National Library of Medicine (NLM), in Bethesda, Maryland, is a part of the National Institutes of Health, US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Since its founding in 1836, NLM has played a pivotal role in translating biomedical research into practice. It is the world’s largest biomedical library and the developer of electronic information services that deliver trillions of bytes of data to millions of users every day. Scientists, health professionals, and the public in the US and around the globe search the Library's online information resources more than one billion times each year.

Acquiring, organizing, and preserving the world's scholarly biomedical literature

Providing access to biomedical and health information across the country in partnership with the 5,600-member National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM®);

Includes many databases and has information in toxicology and environmental health, health
services research and public health

The NLM website ---all of its resources and products are FREE---
The NN/LM was established in the Medical Library Assistance Act of 1965, with the goal to provide health professionals and the general public with health information resources and services. The mission of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) MidContinental Region (MCR) is to advance the progress of medicine and improve the public health by: 1) providing all U.S. health professionals with equal access to biomedical information; and, 2) improving the public's access to information to enable them to make informed decisions about their health. The Program is coordinated by the National Library of Medicine and carried out through a nationwide network of health science libraries and information centers.

MCR follows the distributed model for staffing – we have coordinators in all six states of the region. The Network was created Congress created after an act of Congress in the 1960’s that mandated biomedical information be made available across the country to health professionals and the public. 8 regions were established with a RML in each region. Competitive grants are awarded every 5 years to a RML in every region.
I guess there are several ways toxins can reach us in the environment – air (pollution), water (for drinking, etc.) and in the soil. When you think more about it there are both natural substances such as radon and molds along with chemicals, electromagnetic fields or other human manufactured items that may affect our health. So, I hope all of us may walk away from this session today, more sensitive to environmental hazards.
Slide 10

**ToxMystery**

- Designed for 7-10 year olds
- Available in Spanish and English
- Interactive
- Usability tested by kids, parents and educators
- Lesson plans for teachers
- Free!

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Slide 11

[ToxTown](http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov/)

- Designed for kids older than elementary age
- Interactive
- Spanish and English
- Resources for teachers
- Search for toxins by place or by name
Four main topic areas include water pollution, climate change, air pollution, and chemicals.

Additional Resources

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