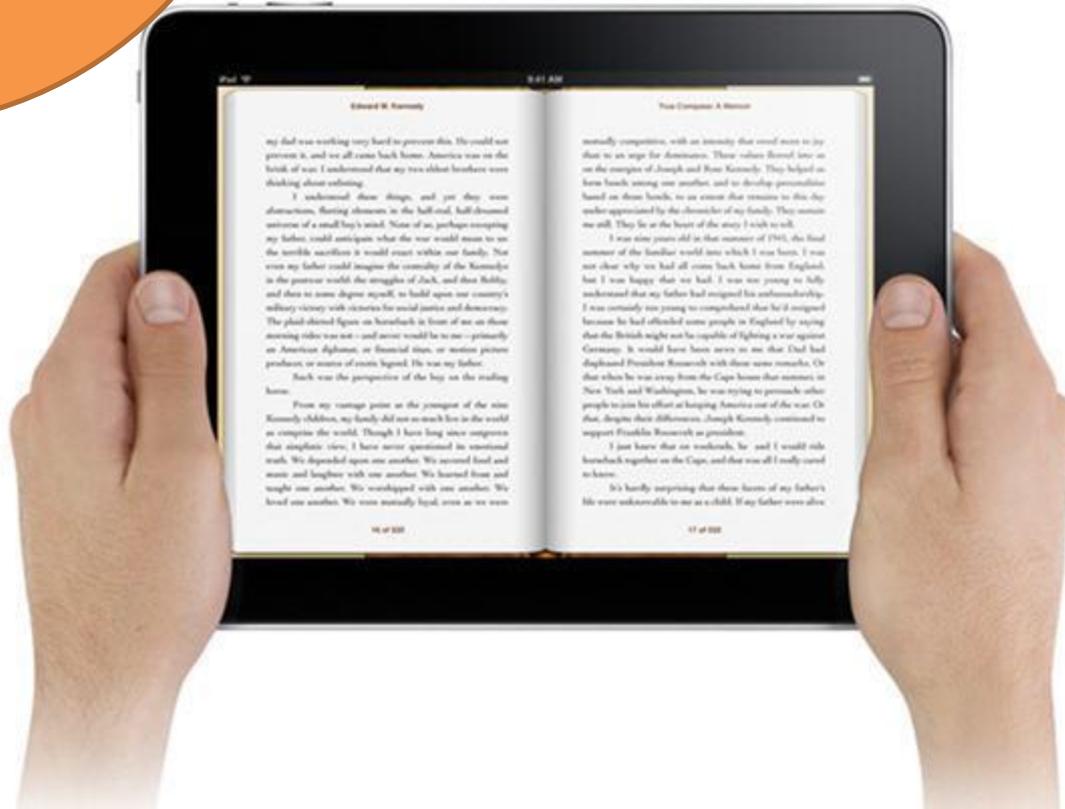


ReadersFirst

A movement to improve **e-book access & services** for **public library users**



eBook Challenges

Libraries face a challenge of **availability** in that some publishers won't license eBooks under a library-lending model

Libraries face a challenge of **discoverability and access** from eBook platforms that are fragmented and hard-to-use

Focus of ReadersFirst



**discoverability
and access**



Libraries have a responsibility to ensure that users have the same **open, easy, and free** access to e-books as print books.

Products currently offered by e-content distributors create a **fragmented, disjointed, and cumbersome** user experience.

289

Library Systems

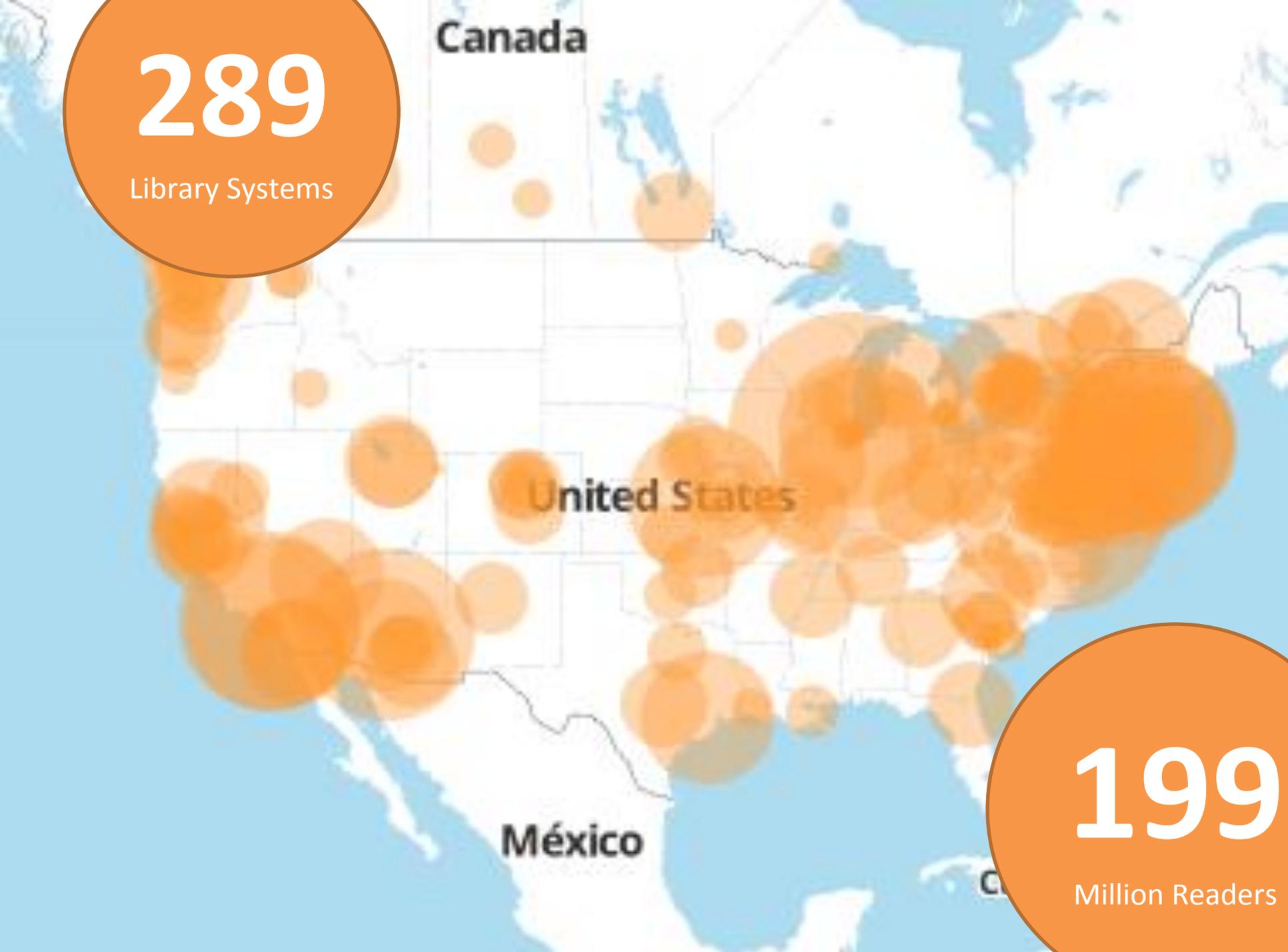
Canada

United States

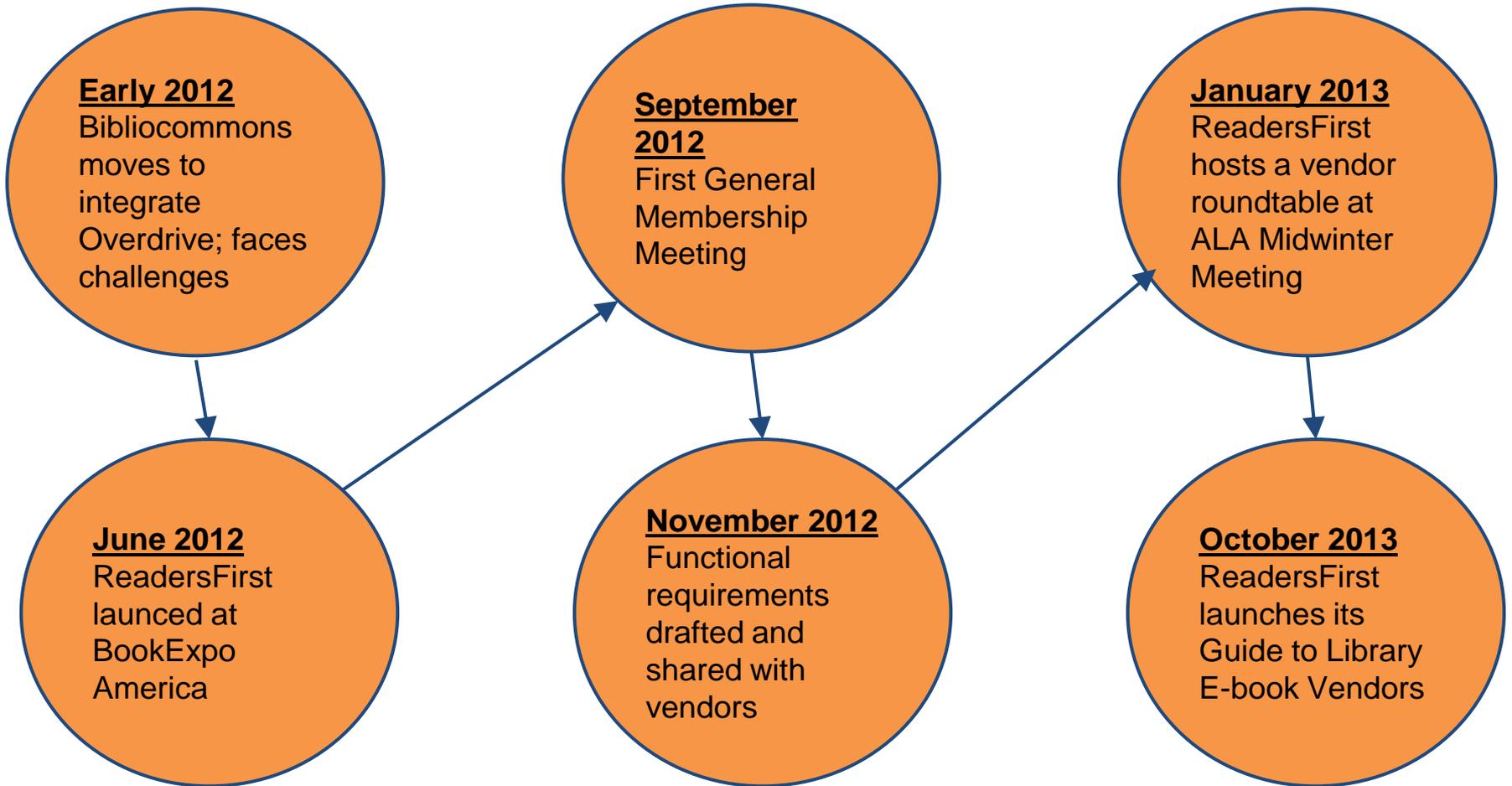
México

199

Million Readers

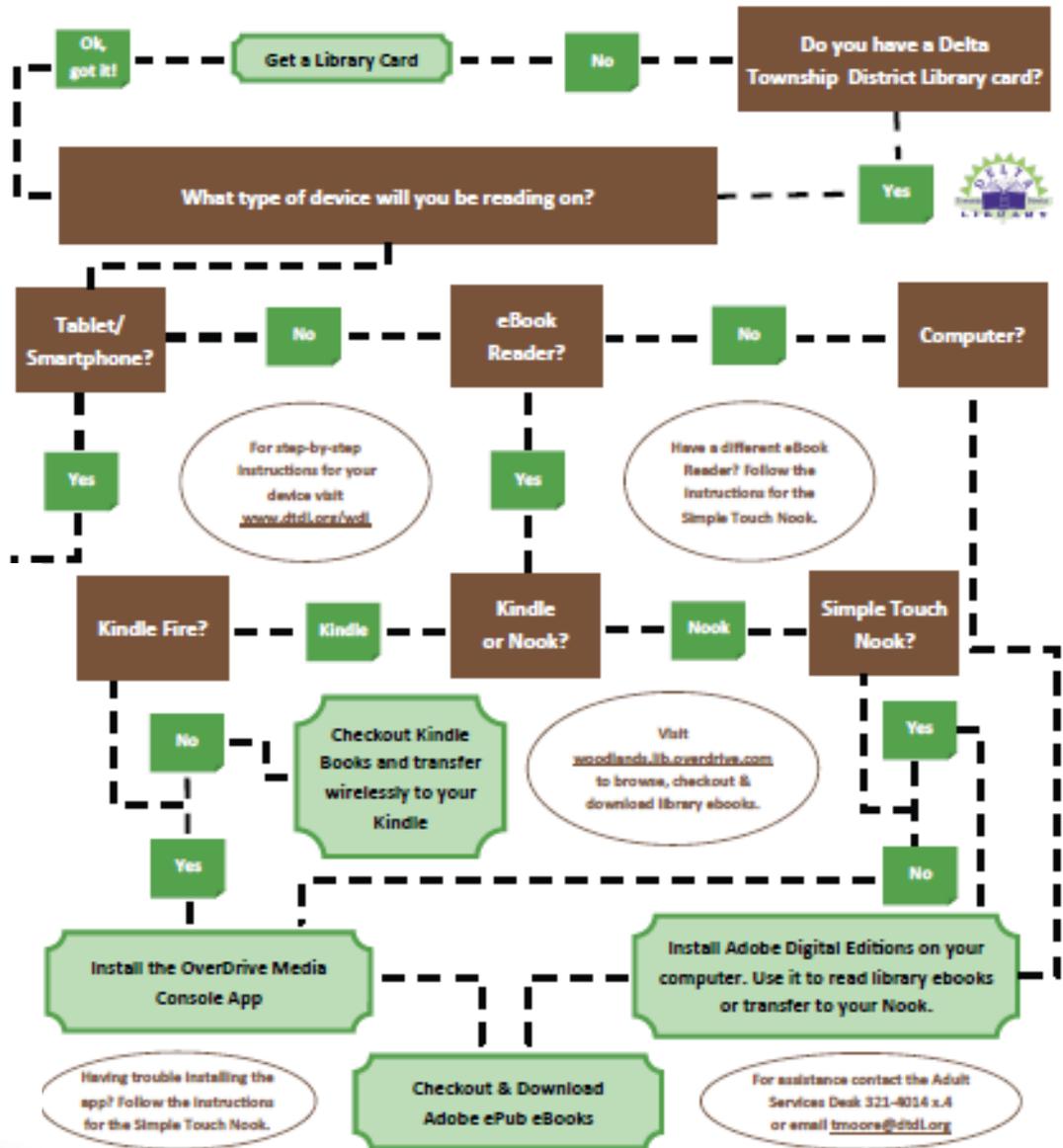


The Story So Far



A library ebook flow chart

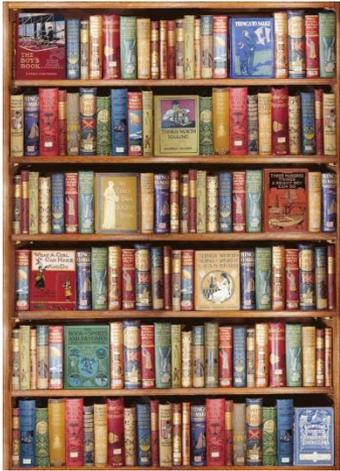
How do I get ebooks from the library?



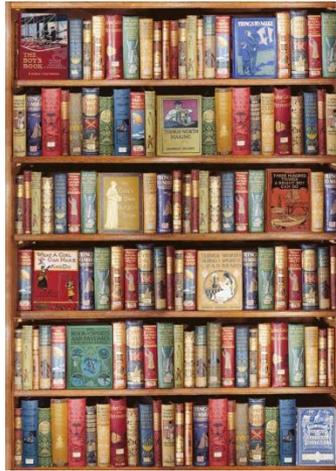
“a fragmented, disjointed, and cumbersome user experience.”



Fiction



Non-fiction



Media



Physical collections and experiences are designed according to patron expectations



Reading Space
OPEN TO ALL

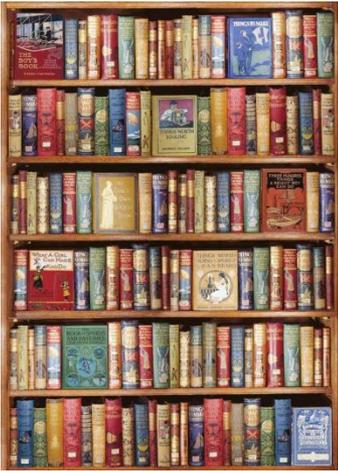


Reading Space
OPEN TO ALL

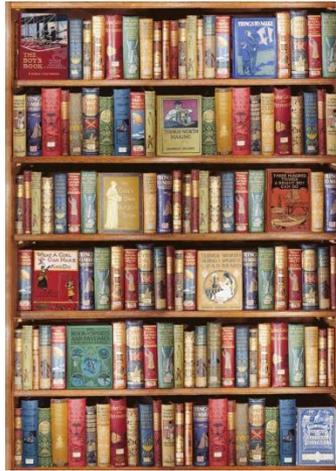


Reading Space
OPEN TO ALL

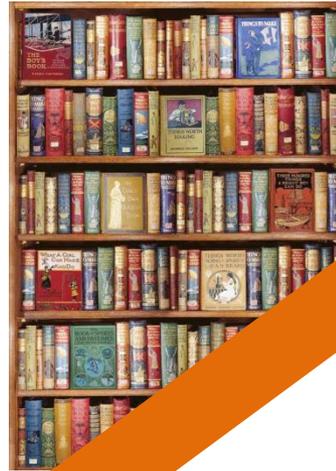
Distributor A



Distributor B



Distributor C



Digital collections and experiences are organized by the source and format of the material



Device A
ONLY



Device B
ONLY



Device C
ONLY

ReadersFirst Principles

Discover

content in a single
comprehensive
catalog

Interact with
the library within the
library's own context

Access a variety
of e-content from
multiple sources

Read e-books
that are
compatible with all
readers

Library e-book products
bundle digital content
with functionality

we already have

(and pay for) in our
catalogs and discovery
environments.



Content

Rights Management

Search/Browse

Discovery

Circulation/Lending

Account Information

Notifications



ReadersFirst is advocating for vendors to **unbundle functions and provide methods (API's)** to integrate them into the environments our **patrons** already know and associate with our **libraries.**

APIs

Application
Programming
Interface

An **application programming interface** is a set of rules or protocols that can be used by software components to communicate with each other.

Open Architecture

Provider_{de}
velops API's (or
other methods) to
expose **content**
and **lending**
functionality

OverDrive
3M
Baker & Taylor
LibraryIdeas
Recorded Books
Ingram

Consumer_{use}
s API's to integrate
and display **content**
and **borrowing**
functionality

SirsiDynix
BiblioCommons
Innovative
Polaris
CARL
Evergreen
Boopsie
ANY APP!!!

API's



Title

fifty shades of grey

Not seeing your home library pop up when you are placing a hold? Go to My Settings > Preferences to select your preferred location

Title search results for...

fifty shades of grey

Save Search ?

Sort by relevance



Available now...

At any location (1)

[More locations...](#)

Format

Books

Book (4)

eBook (1)

Large Print (1)

Audiobooks

Music

Accessible Formats

Acquired

Titles I can...

Content

Audience

Form/Genre

Found 5 items

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(Book - 2012)

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“As libraries look to build out **rich online engagement** with patrons, the desired state is to have the patron completely stay within the **library’s controllable, virtual walls.**”

- Christopher Platt, NYPL

“We’re in a situation now where we have to provide a **different discovery system** depending on where we bought the content from. It’s getting too complex and ebooks are growing so fast. **It’s an urgent problem.**”

- Christina de Castell,
Vancouver PL

“We are looking for the tools to create **true unbundling and interoperability** among the different functions that reside all up and down the stack of the lending model that exists today bundled into many products.”

- Jim Loter, Seattle PL

“This is **exactly** the kind of thing that public libraries should be doing: identifying discrete problems with tractable solutions, avoiding scope creep, and **engaging proactively and openly** with the vendor community to deliver solutions.”

- Peter Brantley,
Publisher’s Weekly

Next Steps

Roundtable with
20+ vendors at ALA
Midwinter



Dialog continue
d communication
with vendors and
libraries –
particularly about API
standards

**Product
Guide** resource for
libraries to help
evaluate RF products
and compliance



Advocacy all
of you can play a
role in your
libraries and in
your dealings with
vendors

A large orange circle with a thin dark orange outline, centered on a white background. Inside the circle, the text "readersfirst.org" is written in white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

readersfirst.org