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### Biodiversity Heritage Library

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*Inspiring discovery through free access to biodiversity knowledge.*

The Biodiversity Heritage Library improves research methodology by collaboratively making biodiversity literature openly available to the world as part of a global biodiversity community.

BHL also serves as the foundational literature component of the Encyclopedia of Life (EOL).

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Biodiversity Heritage Library (website). <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/> .

The Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) is a consortium of natural history and botanical libraries that cooperate to digitize the legacy literature of biodiversity held in their collections and to make that literature available for open access and responsible use as a part of a global “biodiversity commons.” The BHL consortium works with the international taxonomic community, rights holders, and other interested parties to ensure that this biodiversity heritage is made available to a global audience through open access principles. In partnership with the Internet Archive and through local digitization efforts, the BHL has digitized millions of pages of taxonomic literature, representing over 120,000 titles and over 200,000 volumes. (Text from [BHL Wiki](#) )

The BHL online archive offers free global access to literature on biological diversity, and is funded in large part by member dues and individual donations. As of 2017, the library features over 50 million digitized pages written between today and the 15th century. It hosts a [Blog](#), which details how scholars use the library to conduct unique research, as well as a [Store](#), the proceeds from which are used to digitize more books. It also serves as the literature component of the [Encyclopedia of Life \( EoL \)](#).

**Related links:**

- BHL on Flickr (Photographs)  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/biodivlibrary/albums/>

**Websites linked in this text:**

- <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/>
- <http://biodivlib.wikispaces.com/About>
- <http://blog.biodiversitylibrary.org/>
- <http://www.cafepress.com/biodiversityheritagelibrary>
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