Tech Coach Column: Boundless

By LTCL Librarian Karen Scott

In addition to <u>Libby</u>, library patrons have a new option for digital content - Boundless! Boundless, provided by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, gives library cardholders in Texas access to free digital eBooks and audiobooks. LTCL patrons are allowed five holds and 18 checkouts (10 eBooks and 8 audiobooks) with a two-week check out period.

To get started, access <u>Boundless</u> on a computer or download the app from your mobile device's app store. Log in with your library card number and password, typically your ten-digit phone number. The first page you see when accessing Boundless is the Profiles page. Boundless allows users to create distinct profiles within one library account (general, teen, or child) which can be helpful for families with lots of readers! Select a profile type, then enter your display name and email address. Now you're ready to browse!

Here's a quick look at the Boundless home page:



Similar to other eBook and audiobook apps, you have a search bar, featured items, and a main navigation bar. There is also an option to refine by availability and format from

the home page. The advanced search allows you to refine all of these features at once. Select a title's cover image to bring up the summary and publication details as well as the option to checkout, place the item on hold, or add to your wishlist.

Compared to the Libby app, the biggest difference that I have noticed in Boundless is that there are no push notifications for items that become available or upcoming return dates. In order to be notified that an item is available for you to check out, you must enable email notifications by going to Menu > Profile Settings. From here, enter your email address and make sure 'Enable email notifications' has a check mark next to it. The other option I would suggest enabling is 'Display Checkout History.' If this is not enabled, you will not be able to see the items you have previously checked out, only items that are currently on your shelf.

Boundless is a relatively new app and, in my opinion, has some room for growth. If you have any issues or if there are any features you'd like to see, you can submit feedback by going to Menu > Send Feedback.

And, as always, please contact us if you have any questions!

Tech Coach Assistance

Tech Coaches are providing individualized assistance in the library. Visit https://laketravislibrary.org/tech-coach for more information. Do you have other questions? Simply send an email to tech-coach @laketravislibrary.org and one of our coaches will respond to assist you with any questions or challenges you may have!