Included in the information about Romania is a mention of the home of Dracula, Bran Castle.

**Did You Know?**

- When writing the novel *Dracula*, Bram Stoker partly based his main character on the fearsome Vlad Țepeș, prince of Wallachia (1431–76). Stoker also used Romanian folklore. Known as Dracula’s Castle because the Romanian prince used it in his raids, Bran Castle is now a national monument and remains the nation’s most popular tourist spot.
- The fountain pen was invented by a Romanian, Petrache Poenaru.
- Easter egg painting is an important art form in Romania; painted eggs often feature religious symbols and animal designs.
- Food is expensive, costing around one-third of a family’s monthly income.
SIRS Discoverer has a lot more information on Dracula, including this article.

**Compare the Vampires**

**Bram Stoker's Dracula**

He sleeps in a coffin. He comes out only at night. And his favorite meal is human blood. Who is this freakish fiend? He is Dracula, the most famous vampire of all time.

Readers first met this ghoulish creature in the novel *Dracula*, published in 1897. The book, written by Irish author Bram Stoker, tells the story of the mysterious Count Dracula. He lives in a castle in Transylvania, a mountainous region in Eastern Europe. At first glance, *Dracula* looks like a normal man. But he is really a monster. His hair forms a pointed widow's peak over his forehead. His teeth are razor sharp. He stalks his human victims. He bites their necks and drinks their blood.

Stoker didn't invent vampires. He read about them in folktales that were hundreds of years old even then. He took the name *Dracula* from a real 15th-century family. Its best-known member, Vlad the Impaler, was a ruthless prince who tortured his enemies and was rumored to drink their blood. Stoker combined this old legend with some history and a fictional plot. The result was a book that many think is a masterpiece.
SIRS Discoverer – Science Fair Explorer

And don’t forget the Science Fair Explorer for some Gross Science. Care for some Cool Gooey Ooze?
Among other ghoulish content in eLibrary are 3 (count ‘em!) research topics on Dracula! We have
1. Bram Stoker,
2. Dracula, and
3. Vlad Dracula
eLibrary

eLibrary also includes:

• A research topic on Halloween exploring the holiday’s history and customs [https://explore.proquest.com/document/1959809892](https://explore.proquest.com/document/1959809892)


• Articles on candy corn, pumpkins, pumpkin pie, costumes, and other Halloween celebrations
SIRS Issues Researcher weighs in with articles that explore some different viewpoints on Halloween and customs. Article titles include:

• Costumed Fun Not an Excuse for Ignorance
• Can a Halloween Costume Be Hate Speech?
• Sexy Halloween Costumes for Girls? Study Backs Up Concerned Parents
• Banned at the Schoolhouse Door: Pint-Size Ghosts and Goblins
• Days of the Dead
Searching for Halloween in ProQuest Central Student brings up almost 1 million results (Very Scarey)!
Luckily, we can filter these by source type, publication date, subject and more to winnow our results set to a more reasonable number!
Schools and Educators Complete

Schools and Educators complete has many treats for our goodie bags... errrr...bookshelves, including histories, ghost stories and more!

Halloween: From Pagan Ritual to Party Night
Rogers, Nicholas  Oxford University Press, Incorporated 2002
ISBN: 9780195146912, 9780195349108

Boasting a rich, complex history rooted in Celtic and Christian ritual, Halloween has evolved from ethnic celebration to a blend of street festival, fright night, and vast commercial enterprise. In this colorful history, Nicholas Rogers takes a lively, entertaining look at the cultural origins and d...

Cake Decorating with the Kids - Halloween: A fun & spooky cake decorating project
Collins  F&W Media, Incorporated 2012
ISBN: 9781446359006

Get messy in the kitchen with these easy-to-follow cake decorating projects to make with kids! Choose from a Haunted House Cake, Scary Spider Cupcakes or Spooky Skull Cupcakes to make a 'sweet table' of all three! A sample chapter from Cake Decorating with the Kids.

Ghost Invasion
Snyder, Zilpha Keatley  Open Road Media Teen & Tween 2014
ISBN: 9781480471610
SERIES: Castle Court Kids

It's almost Halloween, and the Castle Court Kids are ready to raise some ghosts. The Anderson barn is haunted. According to sixteen-year-old Bettina Katzenbach, the ghost Addie Anderson and her bandit boyfriend return every Halloween. Enthralled by the doomsed centuries-old r...

Songs and Stories of the Ghouls
Notley, Alice  Wesleyan University Press 2011
ISBN: 9780819569561, 9780819571533
SERIES: Wesleyan Poetry Ser.

An epic poem of genocide, designed to create power for the dead

6. From Burns to Burton: Halloween and Popular Culture
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