

OC PUBLIC LIBRARIES DATABASE SEARCH

A database is a collection of organized information: newspaper articles, magazine articles, encyclopedia articles, biographical information, primary resource material and statistical information.

The library purchases the rights to make this information available to students.

- To access the Library databases you will need your library card number.
- Go to www.ocpl.org
- Click on “eLIBRARY” then “Online Databases”
- Choose your database from the list

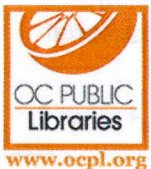
There are many databases for many different topics. Try several for your search:

Kid-Friendly (Ages 5-12): **World Book Encyclopedia** with articles and primary resource material. **Kids Infobits** contains topics with basic information.

Homework: **Daily Life Through History** contains history and social studies topics. **Opposing View Points in Context** discusses current social topics. **American Decades** is an eBook with historical timeline facts and articles.

If need more information conduct a broad search by going to:

General (Nonspecific Subject Databases) and use **Gale Power Search**. Pick the databases you think might cover your topic and enter your search words. Try **U.S. History in Context**, **World History in Context**, **Student Resources in Context** or **Gale Virtual Reference Library**. You may need help with articles you find here, since the topics are written at high school and college levels.



San Clemente Public Library
242 Avenida Del Mar
San Clemente, CA 92672
949-492-3493

SOURCES ON THE WEB

Primary resources:

Search using your keyword plus the term "primary resource."

National Archives: www.archives.gov

Library of Congress: www.loc.gov

Google: Try *Google Scholar* or *Google Books*

General: Look for the web address ending in:
.gov or .edu or .org

WHAT A WEBSITE ADDRESS TELLS US

Each Website contains a home page, which is the first page you see when you enter the site. The site might also contain additional documents and files. Each site is owned and managed by an individual, company or organization. *Hint, you can tell what kind of website you are on by its domain name:*

.com = commercial site

.org = non-profit organization's site

.edu = educational site

.net = network site

.mil = military site

.gov = government site

👉 THE FOUR C'S OF WEBSITE EVALUATION 🧐

Finding reliable information

Currency: Look for recent a date at the bottom of the page

Credibility: Check to see if the author or sources are informed, expert and reliable. Is the source an organization, a school, or a person?

Content: Is the information slanted toward one particular view or opinion? Is spelling and grammar correct? Does the website try to sell you anything or ask you for personal information?

Coverage: Is the information complete, well researched and supported by facts?