FREE! for Maine residents!

digital MAINE Library

formerly MARVEL

A digital collection of RELIABLE resources!

Something for EVERYONE!!!

Encyclopedias

- general info -
- like Wikipedia but teachers often prefer these:

1. World Book
2. The World Fact Book CIA

Subject or Discipline Databases

specialized or topic-oriented

Chilton Library - auto repair manuals
Learning Express - post-secondary test prep
Ancestry.com
Maine Memory Network
Gender Studies Collection
Newspapers - Maine, National, Global
Wall Street Journal
Pronunciator - language learning
Hobbies + Crafts Reference
Science + Ecology! US History!
Health + Wellness! EconLit!
... AND SO MUCH MORE...

Mega Database

a database that searches LOTS of other database

Academic One Search

- look for .pdf / full text
- paste in a journal article title
- search for a publication
  → search within a publication
- browse by discipline or popular topics

Database Searching Tips

- specialized vocabulary "database terms"
- try different combinations of search terms
- "just right" search terms: not too broad (too many results) OR not too narrow (not enough!)

→ Examples...of good searchterms: animal testing, animal experimentation, animal welfare

NOT: "Why do people test drugs and cosmetics on animals?"

This is a Google search. Just NO.

Opposing Viewpoints in Context

great resource for controversial and/or current topics.

- background info about the author is included
- overview/summary helps you identify bias and pro/con
- guiding questions to focus your reading.
- entry for your works cited included!

Why Use Databases??

1. Authoritative sources from real, edited journals/periodicals or digital collections, "peer-reviewed"
2. Resources are cited for you (it's ok to copy + paste!) in lots of styles (MLA, Chicago, APA, etc)
3. Use the sources at the end of the article to find more sources! "Mine the bibliography!" (This isn't lazy, it's smart!)

Need help? Search terms, works cited, etc.?
See Mrs. Eichenlaub in the CHILLS Library! iris.eichenlaub@fivetowns.net