HOW TO BEGIN RESEARCH

- Compile a list of subject key words. You will use them when researching.
  - Think of synonyms (words that mean the same thing)
  - Check the spelling! Searching in the library catalog or databases won’t correct your spelling.
- Start small. Find between 5-10 resources that match your subject. Analyze these sources for your paper before gathering more.
- Create a rough outline. Based on the information you have already collected, write down a summary of what you want to cover in your paper.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR INFORMATION

When should I use books?
- For in-depth overviews or historical background on a subject.
- Look for books using the Catalog on the Library website.

When should I use a database?
- For scholarly research articles that give specific case data or recent developments in an area
- Access databases from the Find Items tab on the Library website.

When should I use the Web?
- For demographic statistics or VERY current information that has not yet been published academically

LIFE SCIENCES WRITING HELP

Handbook of Scientific Proposal Writing
Q 180.55 .P7 O78 2012

How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper
T 11 .D33 2011

Preparing Literature Reviews: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches
Q 180.55 .E9 P36 2008

Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual
Located on the Library Reserve Shelf

Scientific Papers and Presentations
T 11 .D324 2012

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Books

The following are Library of Congress Call Numbers for possible Life Sciences research topics.

Q : Science
   QD Chemistry
   QH Natural History – Biology
   QK Botany
   QL Zoology
   QL 360-599.82 Invertebrates
   QL 614-639.8 Fishes
   QL 640-669.3 Reptiles and amphibians
   QL 671-699 Birds
   QL 700-739.8 Mammals
   QR Microbiology

S : Agriculture / Conservation
   SB Plant Culture / Horticulture
   SF Animal Culture
   SH Fish Culture

Want to Browse Science Magazines?
Newest issues in Commons

• American Scientist Q 1 .A64
• Audubon QL 671 .A82
• Discover Q 1 .D57
• National Wildlife S 964 .U6 N35
• Northwest Science Q 1 .N6

Databases

EbscoHost Web—Academic Search Complete
• A comprehensive full-text database

CAB Direct
• Applied life sciences database maintained by CABI, a not-for-profit science-based development organization
• Large science article index, as well as over 210,000 full-text articles hand-picked for their relevance and impact

InfoTrac - Academic OneFile
• A full-text database with multidisciplinary content
• Recommended for users who prefer a “Google” style search box

ScienceDirect: www.sciencedirect.com
• A leading scientific database offering journal articles and book chapters from nearly 2,500 journals and 26,000 books
• Search through indexed and abstracted records for free, then InterLibrary Loan any items that SKC does not currently own

Websites

Tribal Data
• Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes – Fish, Wildlife, Recreation, and Conservation Department
http://www.cskt.org/tr/fwrc.htm

Montana Data
• Montana Natural Heritage Program: Published reports on Montana environmental research studies
http://mtnhp.org/reports.asp

National Data
• EPA Science Inventory: Searchable database of Environmental Protection Agency sponsored research
http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/
• National Wildlife Research Center Research Gateway: Public database to publications by NWRC scientists
• Science.gov: Searches over 55 databases and over 2100 selected websites from 15 federal agencies, including research and development results
http://www.science.gov/

Study Aides
• Khan Academy: Great site for extra help in understanding biology or organic chemistry concepts
https://www.khanacademy.org/

Can’t Find What You Want in the SKC Collection?
Fill out an Inter-Library Loan request on the Library website. It’s fast and FREE!

2015-2016 Database Access
Username: skc15
Password: bison16