

# Research 101

## At the Lucius E. and Elsie C. Burch, Jr. Library

1. Choose your topic to research—it should be narrowed down to a specific topic but general enough that you will be able to find enough information.
2. Search for books in the library’s online catalogue: [www.colliervillelibrary.org](http://www.colliervillelibrary.org).
3. Limit your search using the right-hand menu; choose “Lucius E. and Elsie C. Burch, Jr. Library,” in Assigned Branch, “Nonfiction” in Literary Form, and “Book” in Type of Material.
4. Once you find the book you want, click on “Where Is It?” to find the call number and location of the book.
5. When you’ve found the book, look in the Table of Contents and Index to find the pages with the information you need and quickly skim the pages to make sure the information relates to your topic.
6. Next, you can search for online materials. On the library homepage’s top menu, go to “Research It.” Then click on “Online Resources” in the drop-down menu.
7. Look at the menu of databases to find one that relates to your topic:
  - Encyclopedias and Reference
    1. World Book Encyclopedia
      - Good for general information articles
      - Different versions: Student, Timeline, and Advanced
      - Biography Center for biographical information
    2. St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture
      - Articles on pop culture (movies, musicians, books, etc.)
  - Education
    1. Academic OneFile
      - Journal articles (more details, cover more specific topics)
      - Has information on the sciences, technology, medicine, the arts, theology, literature, and more
      - Features: Trending Now: outlines trending topics
      - Topic Finder: a graphic to help you make new connections to your topic and find new information
      - Filter: Search only Full Text Articles to find the most information
      - Articles have MLA citation at the end
    2. Gale Power Search
      - Searches all Gale Databases
  - Current Events

1. Pop Culture Collection
  - Magazine and journal articles about popular culture
2. Opposing Viewpoints
  - Present articles on both sides of various current issues
- History
  1. World History Collection
  2. US History Collection
  3. Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture
- Literature
  1. Bloom's Literary Criticism
    - Full text e-Books of literary criticism
    - Author biographies
    - Summaries of works of literature
    - Character descriptions
    - Videos of plays, etc.
- Newspapers
  1. Commercial Appeal
    - Full-text articles since April 25, 2000
  2. InfoTrac Newstand
    - Full-text newspaper articles and allows users to search articles instantly by title, headline, date, newspaper section, or other fields
- Science
  1. General Science Collection
    - Journal articles covering recent scientific development