

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Information Sources Use if your research requires...

Non-Fiction & Reference Books	Detailed and analytical coverage Scholarly information Bibliography and references When information is one to two years or older
Library Media Center Catalog	Index to all resources housed in the media center Selected websites of interest to students
Magazines	Topics of general public interest Popular Culture Up-to-date; Current events or Back issues
Journals	Scholarly information Often published by professional organizations Often concentrate in a specialized academic field of study Bibliography and references When information is older than one month
Newspapers	Local, national, international news coverage Some articles include analysis, statistics, photos, editorial opinions When information is one to three days old
Periodical Index	Index to magazines, journals and newspapers Listings of citations, abstracts, and full text articles
General Encyclopedias (Print and Non-print)	Overviews on a wide range of topics When information is two years or older (non-print may be more current)
Subject Encyclopedias	In-depth, scholarly coverage focusing on one field of study When information is two years or older
World Wide Web	Information about companies and products K-12 & general public education from organizations & institutions Information from local, national, and international governments Personal web pages, popular culture, periodicals, primary sources Expert and popular opinions Images, sound & video files Same day coverage of news events
Online Subscription Databases: Student Resource Center Bridges Career Resource SIRS Literature Resource Center Biography Resource Center	May include information on various topics found in reference books and periodicals May specialize in a specific academic field
Other: Personal interviews, letters, diaries, documents, quotes CD-ROMs; DVDs, videos e-mail; homework helper	May be primary source material May be electronic media

References: <http://www.carr.org/schs/TILT/module1/sources.htm>
http://www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/select_table.htm

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