

DO RESEARCH

You do research to find information for your report. Use a variety of sources when doing research. Types of sources could include:

- The *World Book Multimedia Encyclopedia*
- Books
- Magazines
- Websites

Finding Good Sources

When you find a potential resource, review it quickly to decide if it has information you can use. Ask yourself:

- How much information about your topic does it have?
- When was it published? Does it have up-to-date information if you need it?
- Does it have special features you can use?
- Is it written at a level you can understand?
- Is the author an expert, or someone with special knowledge?

Here are some sources of information you can find at your library, in your home, and in your community.

1. Reference materials

- Print encyclopedias and yearbooks such as *The World Book Encyclopedia*
- Magazine indexes such as the *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature*
- Newspaper indexes such as the *New York Times Index*
- The Library of Congress Catalog (This might be available on a computer.)
- Special files for pamphlets and other materials

2. Electronic reference materials

- CD-ROM encyclopedias and references
- CD-ROM periodical (magazine) indexes such as InfoTrac
- Websites on the Internet

3. Local library system card catalog or computer catalog for books

4. Other sources such as:

- Local, state, and national government offices
- Personal interviews
- Educational software, videos or television programs

The librarian can help you find any of these resources.