

Save the World: Research Guide

Databases:

Access: wrhslibrary.weebly.com → Research Tools

Online Databases are the most overlooked useful tool in your research arsenal. You can access dozens of up-to-date online databases, covering a vast range of topics and including a multitude of resources, ABSOLUTELY FREE through the WRHS Library Media Center website. All sources are vetted and authenticated by professionals in each subject's field.

Please note: An e-card is required for access to the Boston Public Library's electronic resources. An e-card may be easily obtained signing-up online. Please see a staff member in the LMC if you have questions.

Recommended databases for this project:



Bonus! Database articles are often cited for you. Scroll to the bottom of the article for the citation, or look for a link to connect you to the citation. ***Make sure to use MLA format.*

Newspapers:

For information about local issues, try searching the *Boston Globe*, *Telegram & Gazette*, *The Landmark* *Historical New York Times*. Links to these newspapers, as well as log-in information, can be found on the WRHS Library database page listed above.




Academic Google Search:

You may also try Google's academic search tools, Google Scholar (scholar.google.com) or Google Books (books.google.com). Links may be found at wrhslibrary.weebly.com.

Google Scholar: Search for scholarly literature quickly. Search across many disciplines and sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts, and court opinions from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities and other validated websites.

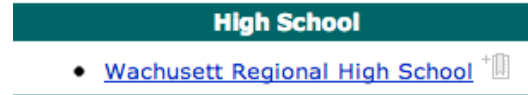
Google Books: Search for books as you would articles on the web. If the book is out of copyright, or the publisher has given permission, you'll be able to see a preview of the book, and in some cases the entire text. If it's in the public domain, you're free to download a PDF copy. Browse reference pages for every book so you can quickly find all kinds of relevant information: book reviews, web references, maps and more.

Books:

Search our library catalog for circulating books and reference books relevant to your topic. To access, visit wrhslibrary.weebly.com, then click the  button.

Select “Wachusett Regional High School” to search.

Search by author, title, or subject. Use the call number to locate the book in the library.



Search Tips:

Quotation Marks: If a term or subject for which you are searching contains more than one word, use quotation marks so the search engine knows to look for that term as a single unit.

Example: “United States”
“New England”

Asterisks*: You may want to search multiple spellings, or the singular and plural of a word at the same time. Asterisks (*) truncate that word and allow you to search for all words that begin with those letters.

Examples: Use librar* to search for library, libraries, librarian, librarians, etc., at the same time.
Use polic* to search for policy, policies, policy-making, police, etc.

Boolean Operators: Search for multiple terms/words at once by using AND, OR, or AND NOT to link the terms.

Examples: government AND Iran*
patriots AND “Revolutionary War” AND NOT football
patriots + “Revolutionary War” –football

Think About It

- What question do I want to answer?
- What keyword or keywords are important?
- How recent do I want my sources to be?
- Which database or resource would have the best information about my question or topic?

Remember!

*** **Do NOT** search using full sentences! Computers do not process information the same way people do. Search for keywords or phrases that relate to your topic or question.***

Example:

BAD SEARCH: What are the causes of the great depression?

GOOD SEARCH: “Great Depression” AND causes