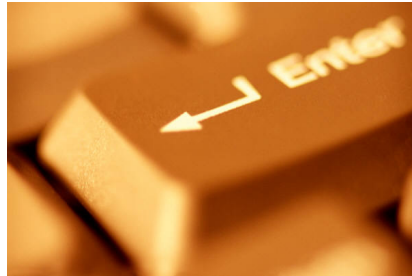


# Research for Kids



## What information do you need to find on your topic?

**Brainstorm ideas on your topic.** Brainstorming means to write down everything you can think of about your topic. For example:

This list helps you develop keywords.



**Space**  
*Planets*  
*Aircrafts*  
*Space suits*  
*The Moon*  
*Apollo*  
*Neil Armstrong*  
*NASA*  
*Aliens*  
*Stars*

## What are keywords for?

Keywords are your searching words. You can use them when you are searching:

- The Library catalogue or iPac
- Online databases
- The Internet
- Contents, index and chapter headings in books

From your keywords you can develop questions to help you find information. An easy way to write questions is to join a keyword from your list with How? What? Where? Why? When?

For example:

- What are the planets' names?
- Who discovered the planets?
- How did the planets get their names?



## How do I find resources?

- School Library
- Public Library
- AnyQuestions.co.nz
- Organisations

## Choose the resources that will answer your questions

- Books
- Internet
- Online databases
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- TV, DVD, Video
- People

## How do I choose the most useful information?

- Choose resources that are up to date, accurate and that you can understand.
- Use your keywords and questions to:

Search for information in books - look on the contents page (front of the book), the index (back of the book) and the chapter headings.

Search the online databases and websites that have been written by experts.



## Bibliographies

There are lots of different ways to write a bibliography. Find out what style your school uses. For example:

### Books:

Jefferies, David. Exploring planet Mars. New York: Crabtree, 2007

### Websites:

Can people go to Mars?, (2004). Retrieved Feb 12, 2007, from NASA website:

[http://www.nasa.gov/vision/space/livinginspace/17feb\\_radiation.html](http://www.nasa.gov/vision/space/livinginspace/17feb_radiation.html)

## What are online databases?

Databases provide online access to information from a variety of resources such as newspapers, magazines, encyclopedias and dictionaries. They allow you to search multiple resources from the one point, making searching quick and easy.

## How do I access my Library databases?

- Go to our website - [www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz](http://www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz)
- Click on **Kids**, then **Homework Help**
- Click on the **subject** you wish to access from the list e.g. **World Book Online for Kids**
- Login using your Library barcode and pin number
- If you don't have a pin number or have forgotten it please contact the Library on 527-2117

## Why use databases?

- You know the information found comes from reliable, trusted sources.
- Online encyclopedias are an excellent starting point for researching topics as they provide a good overview.
- Many databases have multimedia content including photographs, videos and images.
- Back issues of newspaper and magazine articles are not available for free on the web but many are available through these databases.

## What databases can I access with my Library card?

Your Library card provides access to an extensive range of online information which is not freely available on the web including:

### Magazines/Newspapers \*

- Australia New Zealand Reference Centre
- Index New Zealand
- Newztext

### Encyclopedias

- World Book Online
- Te Ara: the Encyclopedia of New Zealand

### Health \*

- Health & Wellness Resource Centre

\* Available under **eResources**



## Internet links

To access current, accurate websites aimed at school students...

- **Go to our website -**  
[www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz](http://www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz)
- Click on **Kids** or **Teens**, then **Homework Help** or **Study Resources** below
- Select the link you wish to access e.g. Any Questions
- This will take you to the website you selected



Library staff are available to answer your questions and guide you through the process of searching for information. Please ask at the Enquiries Desk for assistance.

[www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz](http://www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz)