

Making Your Students Expert Researchers

Gina Shelley

For students, research can be a strenuous and difficult task, especially with advent of the Internet. There are millions of sites and sources to search through, yet research does not have to be difficult if you have a few solid databases and resources at your fingertips.

- 1) Teach your students and faculty about databases.**
 - Pioneer: Utah's Online Library
 - Go beyond Ebsco! Try Sirs Knowledge Source.
 - eThemes
 - Culturegrams
 - School Database (by Gale subscription only)
 - School library catalogue search

- 2) What resources does your library provide that allows students to access information easily?**
 - library webpage
 - ebooks (available by Follett & Gale)
 - Playaways (a Follett product)
 - Handouts

- 3) Teach your students about citing resources.**
 - Sirs Knowledge Source provides MLA help
 - Gale Database

- 4) Other online MLA websites:**
 - The Owl at Purdue
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>
 - Citation Machine <http://citationmachne.net/>
 - MLA Citation Generator (basic)
<http://www.palomar.edu/dsps/actc/mla/>
 - Easy Bib <http://www.easybib.com>

- 5) Teach students and teachers the same time.**
 - Invite the English teachers (or others) to bring in their students for database training. Both will learn!
 - Hold MLA classes. Scaffold the learning and provide students an opportunity to practice.
 - Provide classes that match teachers' curriculum. How can you be a support to them?

Please feel free to contact me with questions or comments.

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