HOW TO BEGIN RESEARCH

- Compile a list of subject key words. You will use them when researching.
- Think of synonyms (words that mean the same thing).
- Check the spelling. Searching in the library catalog or databases won’t correct your spelling.
- Start small. Find between 5-10 resources that match your subject. Analyze these sources for your paper before gathering more.
- Create a rough outline. Based on the information you have already collected, write down a summary of what you want to cover in your paper.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR INFORMATION

When should I use books?
- For in-depth overviews or historical background on a subject.
- Look for books using the Catalog on the Library website.

When should I use a database?
- For scholarly research articles that give specific case data or recent developments in an area.
- Access databases from the Useful Links bar in the Catalog.

When should I use the Web?
- For demographic statistics or VERY current information that has not yet been published academically.

MATH AND SCIENCE WRITING HELP

A Troubleshooting Guide for Writers: strategies and process
PE 1408 .C5378 2010

The McGraw Hill Handbook
PE 1408 ..M3365 2010

Text and Thought: an integrated approach to college reading and writing
PE 1413 .R38 2000

Communicating Technical Information: a guide to current uses and abuses in scientific and engineering writing
PE 1478 .R3

Online Writing Lab at Purdue University
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/

Cite it Right: the SourceAid LLC guide to citation, research, and avoiding plagiarism
REF PN 171 .F66 J6 2005
Books
The following are Library of Congress Call Numbers for possible books on Math and Science.

CC  Archaeology
G  Geography (general)
GB  Physical Geography
GE  Environmental Science
GF  Human Ecology
GN  Anthropology
Q  Science
QA  Mathematics
QB  Astronomy
QC  Physics
QD  Chemistry
QE  Geology
QH  Natural History, Biology
QK  Botany
QL  Zoology
QM  Human anatomy
QP  Physiology
QR  Microbiology
R  Medicine
S  Agriculture
SD  Forestry
SF  Animal Culture
T  Technology

Interlibrary Loan
If there is a book that you need for your research please see the library staff to help you get an interlibrary loan.

To help staff out please find the item you are looking for in http://www.worldcat.org before asking.

Databases
**EBSCO Host**
- Provides online access to several math and science databases.
  - Academic Search Elite
  - Environmental Complete
  - Green FILE

**Credo Reference**
- Encyclopedic entries on Math and Science. A good place to start when you are beginning a new topic.

Print Journals
**Audubon**
QL 671 .A82

**Animal Welfare Quarterly (AWI)**
QL 737 .C4 W45

**Discover**
Q 1 .D57

**Montana Archeological Society**
CC 21 .A82

**National Wildlife**
S 964.66 .N35

**Natural History**
QH 1 .N13

**Outdoor Life**
SK 1 .O7

**Popular Science**
AP 2 .P8

**Scientific American**
T 1 .S5

Websites
**Citing Sources**
- APA Style Blog
  http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/
- Online Writing Lab at Purdue
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/

**Montana Data**
- Montana Natural Heritage Program
  http://mtnhp.org/
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
  http://www.dnrc.mt.gov
- Montana Geographic Information
  http://geoinfo.msl.mt.gov

**National Data**
- Atmospheric Science Data Center
  https://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov
- EPS Science Inventory
  http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/
- National Science Foundation
  http://www.nsf.gov
- National Wildlife Research Center
- Science.gov
  http://www.science.gov
- Tree Search
  http://www.treesearch.fs.fed.us

**Study Aides**
- Khan Academy
  https://www.khanacademy.org