**Databases vs. Websites: What's the difference?**

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| **Library databases (paid for by taxpayer dollars)** | **Websites (paid for by ??)** |
| Experts  and Professionals | Who *are* you?  Your *qualifications*??? Your *motives*? |
| http://www.ideachampions.com/weblogs/strange-albert-einstein.jpgPublished PRINT and digital works  (newspaper articles, scholarly journals encyclopedias/reference books)  Facts are **checked**. (Mostly **full-text** access) | http://americandigest.org/pinocchio.jpgInformation of all kinds—both truth & lies!  Websites **not always checked** by experts.  (Can’t access ALL content!) |
| http://www.spcollege.edu/SPG/WSPCL/librarians/mairn/lis2004/mla_6.gifCreates the citation for you! Just copy and paste! | Websites may not provide thorough information—you have to create the citation yourself!!  http://smhslibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/easybib.jpg**?** http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/gadget/images/gadget_027.jpg**? OTHER?** |
| Narrows topic/ suggests related subjects! Specialized databases for specific topics (Biography Resource Center, Hoovers) (Searchable by Keywords, Subject, Author, Title, etc.) http://www.contracosta.edu/legacycontent/library/clics/chapters/Ch1/Graphics/NarrowTopicInsects.gif | Often aren't organized to support your research needs.  You need to know how to filter and narrow.  YIKES! |
| Updated frequently and include date of publication.  [World Book Student Home](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/home) | [**Online Tutoria**l](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/tutorial) | [Educators' Tools](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/educators) | [Site Contents](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/sitemap) | [Help](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/help) | [**TRAINING GUIDE**](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/training)  [World Book and NASA](javascript:void(0)) | [Accessibility Statement](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/accessibility) | [Contact and Support](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/contact) | [Terms & Conditions](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/terms) | [Privacy Policy](http://worldbook.es.vrc.scoolaid.net/student/privacy)  World Book© 2012 World Book, Inc. All rights reserved. WORLD BOOK and the  GLOBE DEVICE are registered trademarks or trademarks of World Book, Inc. | May not show date updated, or don’t update often!  [home](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/index.php) | [visit](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/visit.php) | [learn](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/her-story.php) | [join](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/get-involved/become-member.php) | [**give**](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/get-involved/donation.php) | [volunteer](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/get-involved/volunteer-application.php) | [**shop**](https://www.susanbanthonyhouseshop.org/) | [about](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/about.php) | [contact](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/contact-us.php) | [sitemap](http://susanbanthonyhouse.org/sitemap.php)  © 2009 **Susan B. Anthony House** |[IntelliSites](http://intellisites.com), the smart choice for web design |

Questions to ask about **ANY** information

**Currency:** How recent is the information, and when was it last updated?  
**Organization:** Is it easy to locate the information you need?  
**Accuracy:** How reliable is the information, and are the facts accurate?  
**Bibliography:** How easy is the work to cite in a bibliography? Does it give you the author, title, publisher, and date?  
**Unfamiliar Topics:** How useful is it when you don't know where to start?  
**Languages:** How easily can the work provide languages other than English?

Any source—library database or website—can have good information. Think critically of all information you read or view.

**How do I access Bay Shore High School databases?**

1. Google: “Virtual Reference Collection” for [xaaa.calypso.scoolaid.net/bin/vrc/vrcList](http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=virtual+reference+collection%5c&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCMQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fxaaa.calypso.scoolaid.net%2Fbin%2Fvrc%2FvrcList&ei=kk01T6y7MePn0QGQkP2zAg&usg=AFQjCNErYgw7uKm9X-G5p18_aiu8Fe7o-g)
2. Click “High School Collection”
3. Select database and log in: **username: bay shorehs password: bshs**

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| **When should I use an Online Database for research?** | **When should I use the Internet for research?** |
| * *When you don’t want to spend valuable research time evaluating your resources!* | * *When you don’t mind evaluating the content of the Website!* |
| * When looking for full-text newspaper, journal, or magazine articles. * When looking for biographical information. * When looking for primary resources, maps, or statistics. | * When seeking information from a government or non-profit organization. * When going to a specific Website. * When looking for information on a unique or obscure topic. * When comparison shopping. * When looking for very current news. |