

Where should I go if I need more help?

If you have questions about what your assignment is, you should start by checking with your teacher or your classmates.

If you need help finding more resources, ask your school librarian or public librarian to help you search.

You can also check out these web sites:

A+ Research & Writing <http://www.ipl.org/div/aplus/>
A great resource from the *Internet Public Library* that talks about how to choose your topic, how to find a focus, how to gather information and how to write your paper.

Citation Styles for Research Papers www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citation.htm — provides links to citation guidelines for five popular citation styles. Remember to ask your teacher which style s/he prefers!

SchoolNotes www.schoolnotes.com
Many Long Hill teachers post class notes and school assignments here. Search by zip code to find your school.

WebFeet K-8 Web Resources
www.webfeetguides.com

The best web sites on the Web, sorted by grade level. Click “Web Feet Online,” then log in with the borrower ID **main**. You can search for keywords, or browse the subject listings you’ll find here!

Long Hill Township Public Library
917 Valley Road, Gillette, NJ 07933
908-647-2088 • director@longhilllibrary.org
www.longhilllibrary.org



HELP! I'VE GOT TO WRITE A PAPER!



Never fear, the library is here!

Lots of resources for homework help are available at your school library, and the Long Hill Township Public Library also has plenty of research materials available. And if we don't have what you need, we can borrow it for you from another library!

Finding books at the library

Start by going to catalog.mainlib.org.

If you have your library card handy, type your number in (without spaces), plus your PIN (if you don't know it, try the last four digits of your home phone, or ask us for a new one next time you're in the library). This logs you in so you can request books when you find them in the catalog. If you don't have your card handy, just log in as a **guest user** (choose Long Hill Township Library).

Type any part of the book's title, the author, or a keyword from your topic, and then click **words and phrases** to begin your search. *For more in-depth help searching the catalog, ask the library staff for help!*

Encyclopedias at the library

You can find great encyclopedias like *Encyclopedia Britannica*, *Encyclopedia Americana* and *World Book* at the library, but did you know we also have specialized encyclopedias such as *Biography Today*, *Colonial America*, *Lands and Peoples*, and several wildlife encyclopedias?

Encyclopedias are great places to find general information when you are just starting to learn about a topic. Some of our encyclopedias are in the children's room and some are in the adult reference section. Ask a librarian to help you get started!

Library databases

Our public library subscribes to many useful databases,* which provide online access to full-text articles from popular magazines, information from print resources such as *Facts on File*, and many other research basics.

The best part of these databases? They're free to library patrons and can be accessed from home! You just need your library card number.

Let's get started!

1. Go to the library's web site: **longhill.mainlib.org** OR **www.longhilllibrary.org**
2. Click on *Find Articles in Databases* (on the right-hand side)
3. You will see a list of all the subscription databases that you can get access to, using your library card
4. Click on a database to use, then enter your library card number (without spaces) when you are asked for it

But how do I know which database to use?

Good question! All these choices can sometimes seem overwhelming. A good first step to starting your research is **Ebsco**. Click on *Ebsco: Periodicals* (*periodicals* is just another word for *magazines*, by the way).

If you're in grades K—8, you can start off with **Searchasaurus**, a database specifically designed for kids. Then type in your

topic: *dinosaurs*, or *American Revolution*. Be sure the **Full Text** box is checked, so you'll only get full text information.

If you need magazine or encyclopedia articles, begin by clicking *Full Text Magazines for Middle School Students*. Click the box next to the three databases listed here, then click *Continue*. Type your topic in the **Find** box, and make sure the **Full Text** box is checked.

Where else can I go?

Facts on File is a terrific resource, especially if you are looking for information about science, maps, social studies or history. Follow the steps you took to get to the library's Database page, then scroll to *Other* and click on *Facts on File*; then enter your library card (with no spaces). When you find a database that looks useful, click on the database name to search it.

The **New Jersey State Library** provides access to a lot of great databases — and it's free to all New Jersey Residents. Check it out — go to **www.jerseyclicks.org** and enter your library card number.

We also suggest that you check with a librarian, who may be able to provide you with more resources that can help you complete your project.

How do I cite an online resource?

There are several different citation formats, and you'll need to check with your teacher to find out which one to use for your project. While viewing an article in Ebsco, you can usually find the information you will need by clicking the **Citation** link. This will give you the original publication information, plus a *persistent Web link* to the article (which your teacher may or may not require).

* *What is a database? It's a directory of information from magazines, newspapers and encyclopedias, and it's accessible on the Internet. You can search for current information or information from the past. You'll find magazine articles, newspaper articles, maps, pictures, and lots more resources for homework help.*