## WHERE CAN I FIND THE INFORMATION I NEED?

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<th>I NEED</th>
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| • Complete information about a topic  
• Background or historical information  
• A broad overview of a topic or event | BOOKS | Books provide information on practically any topic. Library books are top choices because they have been edited, fact-checked, and professionally reviewed. Books are written for a range of readers, from general audiences to scholars. |
| • Focused background information in brief  
• Key ideas, facts, dates, and concepts | REFERENCE BOOKS | The CREDO database offers encyclopedias and specialized reference books on almost every topic. Articles are often written by experts. The library also has many print reference books. |
| • Current events  
• Information about popular culture  
• General information, usually not in-depth | MAGAZINES | Magazines offer articles and images on topics of popular interest and current events, written by journalists (usually not subject experts), who may or may not cite their sources. Magazines are written for the general public. |
| • Authoritative information for a research paper  
• Current research; questions the experts are asking about a topic  
• Bibliographies that point to other related research | SCHOLARLY/ACADEMIC JOURNALS | Scholarly or academic journals are the way that experts in any field communicate the results of their research with each other. Articles offer focused, in-depth information, are peer-reviewed, and always have a list of references at the end. |
| • Current events  
• Local and national information  
• Editorials, expert or popular opinions | NEWSPAPERS | Newspapers offer a collection of articles about current events, written by journalists, and are usually published daily. |
| • Up-to-the-minute information  
• Government information (limit your search to .gov) | WEB SITES | Web browsers offer access to what is freely available online, including images and video. Don’t forget to EVALUATE any information you find. |