

## VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

### Researching in the Library: Using Databases databases.html ( 5 minutes)

Hi! I'm Linda Baker, one of the librarians at the El Centro College Library.

I need to do some research! Where should I start? Google? No... I'm going to use the Library databases! Why? The library databases contain proprietary information from sources that have been verified as coming from credible, reliable sources. Because of copyright restrictions, these are not freely available from Google or from the web. I hope that you'll discover how much faster and easier it is to find credible, reliable information from the databases than from surfing the web.

Let's start at the El Centro College Library website: [www.elcentrocollege.edu/library](http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/library).

I've got a few options on where to start. I could look for books by clicking the first pull-down menu. I could look for ebooks, magazines and newspapers by TOPIC by clicking the second pull-down menu.

Let's say that I'm doing a Speech on a person. I would click on the topic BIOGRAPHIES and find the best databases for information on a person. What if I'm doing a speech on FASHION tips? I would click on the topic FASHION. If you are doing a speech or research paper about a medical problem, I would click on MEDICINE. What if you are not sure where your topic fits or aren't sure of a topic? No problem! You are always click on **Research Starting Guide**

These are the best databases for almost any topic. I like to call these the Wal-Mart databases. They have a little bit of information on almost any topic!

Don't forget to read the Searching Tips, including those listed for each database.

Some of these databases are the best source for information on a hot topic, a persuasive speech or a persuasive research topic. Some are the best database for attention getters and motivators.

Some are the best sources for pictures... biographies... country reports... Many of these databases will also give you a list of suggested topic ideas! Many include chapters from ebooks.

Wow! This database has articles from over 4,000 newspapers and magazines.

You won't go wrong by clicking on any of these databases! All of these databases are accessible from home, 24/7.

Not every database has information on every topic. Think about when you are shopping – you may need to check out several stores to find what you are looking for.

What if my topic happens to be diabetes? I know that I can get attention getters or information about diabetes from any of these databases, including SIRS Researcher, but because my topic is medically oriented, I may want to scroll down the TOPIC search that is located down the left side and click on MEDICINE.

If you are not finding what you are want, let the librarians be your information shopping guides. Feel free to ASK A LIBRARIAN for help. We are available 7 days a week – from early morning until late evening. We are available online, in person and by phone.

We'll come back and research my topic - diabetes.