

ACC Library RESOURCE GUIDE



Database Pathfinder

The three steps of research

- 1 Select a topic to write about
- 2 Get background information
- 3 Find peer-reviewed and primary sources



1 Select a topic

For topic ideas, use these topic guides, which provide lists of topics and background articles and reports:

- > [CQ Researcher](#) (includes index of pro and con issues)
- > [Facts on File](#) (includes index of pro and con issues)
- > [ProQuest](#) (click *Topics* to enter a subject which is broken down into topics)
- > [EBSCOhost Research Starters—Business](#) (articles and reports grouped by major topics)
- > [EBSCOhost Research Starters—Education](#) (articles and reports grouped by major topics)

2 Get background information

Background information (introductory material, overviews in the form of articles and reports):

- > [CQ Researcher](#) (reports with links to other resources)
- > [Facts on File](#) (reports with links to other resources)
- > [Encyclopedia Britannica Online](#) (articles and links to other resources)
- > [ProQuest](#) (journal and magazine articles)
- > [EBSCOhost Academic Search Premier](#) (journal and magazine articles)
- > [EBSCOhost ERIC](#) (education field--includes dissertations, theses, conference proceedings)
- > [EBSCOhost Business Searching Interface](#) (country economic data, company profiles, industry information and market research)
- > [EBSCOhost GreenFILE](#) (articles and reports on environmental issues)
- > [Academic OneFile](#) (journal and magazine articles)
- > [NewsBank](#) (national, international, and *Denver Post* newspaper articles)
- > [EBSCOhost Newspaper Source](#) (national newspaper articles)
- > [EBSCOhost Regional Business News](#) (national newspaper articles)
- > [LexisNexis Statistical](#) (statistics)

3 Find peer-reviewed and primary sources

Select the peer-reviewed article option in these periodical databases:

- > [ProQuest](#), > [EBSCOhost](#), > [Academic OneFile](#), > [CINAHL Plus](#) (nursing and health-related articles)

Primary sources (first-hand research and case studies are part of the peer-reviewed literature in the databases listed above—other primary materials include historical accounts and documents, letters, diaries, speeches, legal documents, found as follows):

- > [Issues and Controversies in American History](#) (select *Primary Documents* under *Special Features*)
- > [EBSCOhost](#) (select primary sources option)
- > [ProQuest](#) (use Advanced Search, select document type)

Database Pathfinder online with links: KnowledgeResearch.net/DatabasePathfinder.pdf