SEARCHING THE HIDDEN WEB – LIBRARY DATABASES

The content found in library databases is part of the “hidden” or “invisible web”. Google cannot access this proprietary content. These licensed databases help you find articles and more. Only UAA students, faculty, and staff are authorized to use them. The general public can also use these resources when physically in the library.

Exercise: QuickSearch

- QuickSearch is found on the Library’s home page. The MA 104 course guide has narrowed the results to the disciplines in the health sciences. Open the MA 104 course guide.
- Search for hives in the QuickSearch box.
- How many results did you find? _______. More than articles are showing up.
- Refine your search using: Peer-Review, Journal Article, and publication date of the last 3 years. Exclude magazine articles, newsletters, books, and any others you choose. How many articles are left? ______
- Try urticaria. How many articles did you find? ________
  _____ Did they seem more appropriate? ___

QuickSearch –Tips

- Limit to Peer-Review
- Consider selecting a discipline, especially if you begin your search from the home page search box.
- Click the folder icon on right as the first step in printing, emailing, or exporting citations.
- Selected items are in the folder at the top of the page. Click the folder icon to print, email, or export to RefWorks.
Many online books will be found searching the library catalog. There is also a listing of books by collection found on the library home page and also at this link.

Evaluating Websites

Consider these criteria when evaluating websites: authority, accuracy, objectivity, and design. This checklist has specific questions you can ask to determine if the site is trustworthy.

Exercise: Would You Trust This Website?

Visit either the first or last three websites. Using the checklist, determine the validity of a site.

- [http://www.labtestsonline.org/] Valid? Yes or No
- [http://www.visembryo.com/baby/index.html] Valid? Yes or No
- [http://www.arctichealth.org/] Valid? Yes or No

Exercise: Searching Websites

These three websites are from very trusted sources. How they display their content differs and how easily you can search and find specific information is also different. Enter hives images on each site. Did you find what you expected? If not, what might you do differently?

- Mayo Clinic ([http://www.mayoclinic.org/](http://www.mayoclinic.org/)) – nationally recognized healthcare organization with a section of their website devoted to health information
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) ([http://www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) – health, safety, and travel information

Exercise: Searching for Images

Images on the Internet are protected by copyright. Determining copyright for images can be complex. This copyright guide gives some basic help. Use this guide to find both images and videos.

After You Graduate

Most of the library resources are licensed for use by UAA students, faculty, and staff. Once you graduate, you can continue to access this material ONLY by coming physically into the library. Alaskan residents have access to the SLED databases. This list can be found on the Library’s home page in the bottom right hand corner by following the SLED Alaska’s Virtual Library link.

Finally

Remember that there are two medical librarians in the Consortium Library ready to help you with your research. Use the Ask-A-Librarian option within the EBSCO databases, email, or call us for assistance.