



Jackson Middle School Library Animal Research Pathfinder September 2012

What are your questions? Start with what you are trying to learn.

- **What is known about this animal's characteristics, appearance, habitat, diet, behavior, history, relationships, communication, reproduction, and population status?**
- **How is this animal adapted for survival?**
- **What is known about this animal's interactions with others and with its environment?**

For good results, research using keywords:

Keywords can 'unlock' your research by moving you away from dead ends. Begin with a list of keywords, from general to specific, that relate to your topic.

For example, if you are researching the cotton top tamarin and do not find a specific book for that animal, it does not mean that there is no information on the cotton top tamarin in the library. Using your keyword list, move to the less specific term "tamarin." If you still don't have any luck, move to the even less specific term "monkey." Then locate your resource on the shelf and search the index for your animal.

For encyclopedias and other reference books, always remember to use the index to locate all information about your animal. It's not always all in the main article.

On the Shelf:

The Magic Dewey Numbers for Animals: 590- 599 in both non-fiction and reference

- **590: Animals**
- **592: Invertebrates**
- **595.4: Spiders**
- **595.7: Insects**
- **597: Fish**
- **597.8: Amphibians**
- **597.9: Reptiles**
- **598: Birds**
- **599: Mammals**

**Find specific book resources by using the library catalog-
it's online on the Jackson Middle School Library website.**

On the JMS Library Web Page:

Link to research databases and to the Pathfinder's web links.

For access to the databases at home, you need to know the passwords.
Pick up a bookmark from the JMS Library with the passwords for remote access.

OSLIS Research Databases:

Choose the best databases for your subject.

- Kids InfoBits (Search the Animals category)
- Student Resources in Context (Search by keyword)
- Gale Virtual Reference Library (e-books)
 - Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia

Web Site Starter List:

General Information Sites

Animal Diversity Web <http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/index.html>

BBC Nature Wildlife <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/animals/>

The Electronic Zoo <http://netvet.wustl.edu/ssi.htm>

KidsClick Animal Sites

[http://www.kidsclick.org/searches/search.php?searchtype=subject&keywords=Animals+\(general\)&title=Animals+\(general\)](http://www.kidsclick.org/searches/search.php?searchtype=subject&keywords=Animals+(general)&title=Animals+(general))

Multnomah County Library Homework Center- Animals

<http://www.multcolib.org/homework/animhc.html>

Animal-Specific Sites

Animals of the Arctic and Antarctic

<http://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/resources/kids/animals.html>

International Wolf Center- Facts About Wolves

http://www.wolf.org/wolves/learn/justkids/kids_facts.asp

Manatees and Dugongs

<http://www.cep.unep.org/childrens-corner/manatees-and-dugongs/cb01.html>

National Marine Mammal Laboratory Education Site

<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/nmml/education/marinemammals.php>

Endangered Species Sites

Species Fact Sheets <http://www.kidsplanet.org/factsheets/map.html>

Zoos and Zoological Parks

National Zoological Park- Smithsonian <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Animals/AnimalIndex/>

Oregon Zoo- Animal Fact Sheets <http://www.oregonzoo.org/Animals/>

San Diego Zoo- Animal Bytes <http://www.sandiegozoo.org/animalbytes/index.html>

Sea World- Animal Bytes <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/Animal-Bytes/index.htm>

Toronto Zoo- Animal Fact Sheets

<http://www.torontozoo.com/ExploretheZoo/Animals.asp>

Woodland Park Zoo (Seattle)- Animal Fact Sheets

<http://www.zoo.org/page.aspx?pid=1248>

Video

Nature (PBS) Episodes <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/category/episodes/by-animal/>