

# INFOhio Getting Started Guide



**SIRS Discoverer** is an interactive reference database designed to develop students' research, reading, writing, language and computer skills by providing full-text articles and other materials selected for their educational content, interest level and level of readability.

Use **SIRS Discoverer** for:

- **Biographies** – more than 1,200 Presidential and general interest biographies.
- **Country Facts** – history, maps, flag and more.
- **Current Events** – national and international stories to promote interest in current issues.

To enter the resource, start from the INFOhio home page, <http://www.infohio.org>.

- Click on *Resources for Grades K-5*, *Resources for Grades 6-8*, *Resources for Grades 9-12*, or *Core Collection*.
- Click the **SIRS Discoverer** button.
- If necessary, enter your username and password.

The screenshot shows the SIRS Discoverer website interface. At the top, it says "SIRS Discoverer on the Web". Below this is a search bar with "SIRS Discoverer" and "Advanced Search / Search Tips" links. There are radio buttons for "Subject Headings" and "Keyword/Natural Language", and a "Search" button. A "Sort by:" dropdown is also visible. To the left is a "Browse Subject Tree" with 15 categories: Animals, Arts, Countries, Cultures, Drugs & Alcohol, Environment, Health & Human Body, History & Government, Kids Corner, Notable People, Personal Growth, Science, Social Issues, Sports, and Technology. To the right is "Discoverer's Top Pick" featuring "Moscow Cats Theatre". Below the search bar are "Discoverer WebFind" and "Web Sites for Kids" sections. At the bottom, there is a "Reference" section with "Current Events", "Spotlight of the Month", "The 2008 World Almanac for Kids", and "Encyclopedia". On the far right, there is a "Database Features" list including Pathfinders, Activities, Biographies, Fiction, Country Facts, Photo Essays, Pictures, Maps of the World, Educators' Resources, and Dictionary / Thesaurus.

**15 subject categories to jump-start research**

**Click to search for selected Web sites.**

**Enter search term/s.**

**Reference resources include the *World Almanac for Kids*.**

**Use Database Features as shortcuts to information.**

## Sample Results

**Online Help**

**Keyword Search**

Home Page | Back | Dictionary | Thesaurus | Help | Tips | Cite

111 All Articles | 16 Newspapers | 46 Magazines | 21 Reference | 37 Pictures | 41 WebFind Sites

Search: panda

Reading Levels / Source & Summary | General | Easy | Moderate | Challenging | Subjects | Pictures | Activities | Fiction | People

Sort by: [ Relevance | Date | Lexile ▲ ▼ ] Details: [ Show | Hide ]

**Show or Hide summaries.**

**Legend for reading levels, activities and more**

**Lexile reading scores**

**Click on title to view entire article – pictures too!**

- Pandas**

*Science Weekly (Level D)*; Aug. 31, 2001; Lexile Score: 1020; 19K.  
**Summary:** "Giant pandas are probably one of the world's most popular and well-known animals... People all around the world are attracted to white furry specimens and are working to ensure that they are protected from extinction." (*Science Weekly*) Learn why panda population in China is declining and how the Chinese government and other officials are trying to help these endangered animals. Some facts about panda conservation are included.  
**Descriptors:** [Endangered species](#), [Giant panda](#), [Zoo animals](#), [Wildlife conservation](#), [China](#)
- Panda Success Breeds Problem**

*China Daily (Beijing, People's Republic of China)*; Oct. 22, 1997; Lexile Score: 1330; 9K.  
**Summary:** "Because of the pressure of human settlement and the deterioration of the natural environment, the number of giant pandas [is] now estimated to be only about 1,000." (CHINA DAILY) Attempts at breeding pandas in captivity have been successful, but "the steady increase in the number of pandas in [China] is causing strains on the facilities and creating problems for the healthy growth of giant pandas in captivity." Scientists are considering re-introducing pandas born and bred in zoos to the wild.  
**Descriptors:** [Giant panda](#), [Wildlife reintroduction](#)
- Pandas in Peril**

*Boys' Life*; Nov. 1995; Lexile Score: 820; 6K.  
**Summary:** "The giant panda races against time. If it wins, it lives. If not, it dies. Are humans doing enough to save this lovable animal?" (BOYS' LIFE) Learn more about this threatened species.  
**Descriptors:** [Endangered species](#), [Giant panda](#)
- Dr. Lucy Spelman--Zoo Director, National Zoological Park of the...**

*Cool Women, Hot Jobs*; 2002; Lexile Score: 1230; 29K.  
**Summary:** Dr. Lucy Spelman is the Zoo Director of the National Zoological Park of the Smithsonian Institution. Learn about her work as the zoo's director and learn what goes on at the zoo. The conservation efforts of the endangered giant panda are discussed. Links to related articles, a veterinarian and resources for more information are included.  
**Descriptors:** [National Zoological Park \(U.S.\)](#), [Zoo keepers](#), [Spelman, Lucy](#)

**Pictures**

Home Page | Back | Dictionary | Thesaurus | Help | Tips | Cite

Over 500 detailed, printable maps are available as an online reference almanac. The maps include each of the 50 United States, the provinces and territories of Canada, as well as nations and regions of the world including Europe, Persian Gulf, Czech Republic, the Baltics, and Times Zones of the World. It also includes U.S. Historical, World Historical and Outline Maps.

United States | Canada | Nations | Regions | U.S. Historical | World Historical | Outline

Type in search term(s) and click Search.

Search For:  Search Clear

Or, browse alphabetically by letter:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

**Also a great source for maps!**

### Where to get additional help for *SIRS Discoverer*:

- Online wherever you see [? Help | Tips | Cite](#)
- On the INFOhio Web site, <http://www.infohio.org>

**SIRS Discoverer**. Database of full-text articles for the young researcher. Students can read stories, learn about important people, find fun projects to do, and much more.

**Click for help!**

- Your school's library media specialist