



What are databases?

A **database** contains information. You use a database (on a computer) to **find information on a topic**.

Where can you find databases?

You can access many databases through **your school's library's website**. Independence Middle School website can be found at ***www.imsmediacenter.wikispaces.com***

Databases here at school generally do not need a UN & PW...however, some do (See the IMSMC Handout!)
****Will need UN & PW at home!**

Once there, just **click** on the word “**Databases**” and **select** a topic.

Why should you use databases?

The Internet has a lot of stuff...JUNK! It can be difficult to find articles and good information. That's where databases can help! In fact, there are good reasons to use databases instead searching the Web:

Databases are easy, fast, and usually *full of very good information!*

Many articles in databases are “peer-reviewed” – this means experts *approved* the articles.

Databases can save you money! Many articles on the web cost money.

Databases let you search and browse by topic, date, author, etc...

If you need to do some *serious research*, databases are often a *great choice!* **They present RELIABLE, AGE-APPROPRIATE MATERIALS!**