



Welcome to the **Learning Guide** that helps you find what you need on the Internet using **directories** and **search engines**. Each site is described in three ways:



- Ⓢ **Source:** *Who created the site?* Discover sites you can depend on.
- ⓕ **Features:** *What kind of information and links are on the site?* Read point-form notes.
- Ⓣ **Tips:** *What special strategies can you use?* Learn special ways to use each website.

Internet Directories

Canada's Digital Collections

<http://collections.ic.gc.ca/E/View.html>

- Ⓢ Government of Canada institutions (e.g., National Library, Museum of Civilization)
- ⓕ Links to Canada's history, geography, science, technology, and culture • curriculum units • classroom activities, quizzes, and games
- Ⓣ Search by subject index or alphabetical listing.

EdSelect

<http://www.edselect.com/>

- Ⓢ Ontario teacher-librarian Pat Elliott
- ⓕ Links sorted into themes and curriculum areas • specific topic links by strands and grade • lesson plans • level ratings
- Ⓣ Check out the Reference Links for facts and the Themes for new ideas. The Literacy Links have lists of great books to keep you reading and the Computer Studies links will develop your Internet skills.

EduNet Connect

<http://www.edunetconnect.com/categories/index.php>

- Ⓢ Baxter Publications
- ⓕ Learning Categories lists sites by subject (e.g., history, language arts, etc.) • Library describes general sites for learning • Time Machine explains interesting facts using a cool world map and time periods
- Ⓣ When you return to this site, check out "Recent Additions" for current sites. Use the Time Machine to discover surprise topics for research.

Gander Academy Theme Pages

<http://www.cdli.ca/CITE/themes.html>

- Ⓢ Jim Cornish, Grade Five teacher, in Gander, Newfoundland
- ⓕ Fast links to themes for reading and research
- Ⓣ The list of themes at the beginning (e.g., Mission to Mars) has interesting activities and many links. Scroll down to main headings for specific subheadings (e.g., *Heading: Space – Subheading: Solar System*).

What is an Internet Directory?

An **Internet directory** is a website that organizes links to other websites into categories.



An Internet directory is created by human beings that select best links and classify them for a particular audience. Results are fewer than those found with a **search engine** but are often more reliable when created by a trusted source.

Most directories organize the links in a subject list or alphabetical list. These lists are sometimes called "indexes."

Use a directory when you want selected, authoritative results. A directory can save you time in the long run, especially if it has a search feature.

Link to Learning

<http://www.linktolearning.com/>

- Ⓢ Kevin McAsh, Vision Resource Teacher
- ⓕ Quick links to sites that help Ontario students
- Ⓣ Different subject pages have pictures (Mathematics) or words (The Arts) to take you to other related pages. Since the site is updated only once a month, check out What's New section.

SchoolNet Curriculum Area

http://www.schoolnet.ca/home/e/resources/index_cur.asp

- Ⓢ A partnership with Canadian provincial/territorial governments and others
- ⓕ Access to SchoolNet's Learning Resources organised by subject
- Ⓣ When you click on a subject, you'll get a larger list of resources for that topic. You can also search by keyword in the "blackboard" in the left frame. Click the Help symbol to learn more.

Internet Directories (World)

ALA Great Websites for Kids

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/greatwebsites/greatwebsiteskids.htm>

- Ⓢ American Library Association
- ⓕ Great fiction and non-fiction sites selected by librarians • new search engine to find links • Website of the Month
- Ⓣ On the left frame, read the Selection Criteria, suggest a website, or take the Kids Survey.

Awesome Library for Kids

<http://www.awesomelibrary.org/student.html>

- Ⓢ Dr. R. Jerry Adams, Evaluation and Development Institute
- ⓕ Colourful headings arranged in two sections: School Subjects and Fun and More • click a box to go to subheadings and links organized into Subtopics, Lists, Papers, Projects and Trips
- Ⓣ Click Index in the middle of the Home Page for topics and sub-topics arranged in alphabetic order. In Fun and More, click Ask a Question to ask an expert. Titles and Authors have lists of books to read but also online bookstores.

Berit's Best Sites for Children

<http://www.beritsbest.com/>

- Ⓢ Librarian Berit Erickson
- ⓕ 1,000 best sites arranged into easy-to-find sections: Just For Fun, Holidays and Seasons, Creatures Great and Small, Serious Stuff, Kids on the Net, and Safe Surfing • sites are rated for quality from 1 to 5
- Ⓣ Use the search engine to quickly find links just on this site. Click What's a Berit to learn about the author and her criteria for choosing sites.

Internet Public Library Teen Space

<http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace/>

- Ⓢ School of Information and Library Studies at the University of Michigan
- ⓕ Annotated "best " links selected for Grades 1-8 curriculum and extra-curricular interests • special features (in left frame or on the right at "Click HERE for more IPL features") • features include Ask a Question (reply from a librarian after 3 days); Culture Quest (holidays, art, customs from around the world); Learning HTML (lessons and free stuff); Science Fair (research guide); Story Hour (text, audio and some animations)
- Ⓣ Search by subject or keyword in teen space or entire Internet Public Library. Use navigation bar below the banner to go quickly to a section (click Home to find TeenSpace link for upper grade resources).

Internet Detectives

<http://www.madison.k12.wi.us/tnl/detectives/>

- Ⓢ Madison Metropolitan School District, Wisconsin
- ⓕ From their research questions, students (mostly U.S.) select links, evaluate the sites, and write descriptions of the sites' contents and features for other students to read.
- Ⓣ Click on a heading or subheading to go to links. Enjoy reading the student's description and evaluation. Note the question he/she was trying to answer. Find new sites, as some here are two or three years old.

KidsClick!

<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/KidsClick!/>

- Ⓢ Ramapo Catskill Library System and Colorado State Library
- ⓕ Directory organized by subject and then by alphabet for specific subjects • reading level given for sites
- Ⓣ Click Librarian's Eyes to see the sites arranged by the Dewey Decimal System.

Little Clickers for Children

<http://www.littleclickers.com/>

- Ⓢ Editors of Children's Software Review
- ⓕ Safe sites for primary and junior students chosen for fun and learning • click a picture to find the links
- Ⓣ Click View as PDF on many of the pages for colourful print-outs.

Open Directory: Kids

http://dmoz.org/Kids_and_Teens/

- Ⓢ Volunteers around the world in charge of specific areas
- ⓕ Directory with subject headings and subheadings • number of links in parentheses
- Ⓣ Use the search engine to find links in the whole directory or a particular section. Categories have links in other languages.

VRD Learning Center

<http://vrd.askvrd.org/index.asp?>

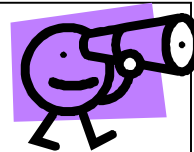
- Ⓢ A team of school, public, academic, and special librarians sponsored by the United States Department of Education.
- ⓕ Tabs across the top of each page: Home, My Questions (ask an expert if you are registered), Search Archives (using keywords), Experts, and Help • in the Home tab, school resources are arranged by category using two further tabs: 1. Resources, containing selected Top Sites and Frequently Asked Questions, and 2. Archived Questions containing questions (with responses from experts) that someone else has already asked.
- Ⓣ To conduct a search, click the Search Archives tab and use several keywords to describe what you are hoping to find. In the Frequently Asked Questions, click the question to find links and ideas for projects.

Yahooligans

<http://yahooligans.yahoo.com/>

- Ⓢ Yahoo, Inc.
- ⓕ A directory of selected Internet sites for kids aged 7-12 • fast search engine that searches Yahooligans (not the Internet) • fun features, including Games, Sports and News, Movies, Animals, Science and Dinosaurs, a Reference section, Parents' and Teachers' Guides, and a Cool page
- Ⓣ Click Help for answers to interesting questions. Teacher's Guide includes a lesson on searching. To go to a previous page, either click the "back" button on your browser or look at the category path on the top of your page. This shows the bigger categories that your category is a part of.

What is Search Engine?



Search engines gather Internet information into indexes (databases) for people to search using keywords and terms like AND, OR and NOT.

When you use a search engine, you are NOT searching the Internet but searching that engine's own index (different engines = different results).

Use a search engine to browse from a wide range of results or to find a particular fact. Keywords should be specific and complete.

Before you search, read the search engine's Help page to understand its features.

Search Engines

Ask Jeeves Kids

<http://www.ajkids.com/>

- Ⓢ Ask Jeeves Inc.
- ⓕ Uses questions or phrases to find sites • on the left side: Fun and Games and News Resources search for pictures, products, news • on the right side: Study Tools for resources and searches by subject/topic.
- Ⓣ Read Help for search tips and new features (e.g., search for famous people and spell check). Click News Resources for kids news from the WWW.

Google OneKey

<http://www.google.ca/>

- Ⓢ OneKey (Jim Parsons) in partnership with Google, Inc.
- ⓕ Largest database of kid-safe sites • search takes you to web pages filtered by Google.
- Ⓣ Scroll down Home page to find a directory of Kids Safe Sites on Single Pages. Click OneKey Search Options for important list of searching tips (e.g., using the “+” sign for AND searches). Clicking Best Books only takes you to advertiser Amazon.com..

Metasearch Engines

Ithaki for Kids

<http://www.ithaki.net/kids/>

- Ⓢ Virtuoso Net Solutions, Inc.
- ⓕ Finds sites just for kids via searching several search engines for kids like DmozKids, Yahoo!igans, FactMonster, ArtKIDSRule, AolKIDS, AwesomeLibrary and KidsClick!
- Ⓣ If you're above 10-12 years old, click Ithaki Metasearch at the bottom of the page. It will pre-select Canada so check the drop-down menu to broaden your search.

Pandia Kids and Teens (+ Directory)

<http://www.pandia.com/kids/index.html>

- Ⓢ Per and Susanne Koch, Oslo, Norway
- ⓕ All-in-one list of search engines and directories for children and teenagers.
- Ⓣ To broaden your search, select the line (____) in the drop-down box (below Ask Jeeves and Yahoo!igans). Click on the category in the directory at the bottom for more subcategories.

Vivisimo

<http://vivisimo.com/>

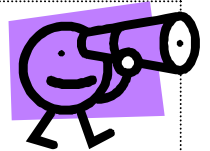
- Ⓢ Vivísimo, a privately-held corporation with investments from Innovation Works, private investors and grants from the National Science Foundation
- ⓕ Returns searches in groups (clusters) by subject or keyword • searches the cluster for specific focus • identifies sponsored links at beginning of results
- Ⓣ Read Help for information on starting your search, browsing the clusters, accessing the results, and using additional features. Click Details to view search statistics

What is a metasearch engine?

A **metasearch engine** finds results from many search engines. Some metasearch engines rank results, while others just add more sites, which may make you lose your focus.

Use a metasearch engine carefully when you want to combine results for a big search.

Read the Help page to learn how to use each metasearch engine effectively.



Fun Sites for Learning

BBC Walking with Dinosaurs

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dinosaurs/>

- Ⓢ British Broadcasting Corporation
- ⓕ One of the biggest dinosaur sites on the Net • multimedia tour under Dinosaur Worlds • helpful lessons from experts on research skills and evidence
- Ⓣ Click on the menu along the top to see more Science and Nature pages. Click on the left frame for more prehistoric topics: Beasts, Cavemen, Monsters We Met (quizzes and research questions), and Wild New World.

CBC Kids

<http://www.cbc.ca/kids/>

- Ⓢ Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- ⓕ Information, games, and free stuff related to CBC shows
- Ⓣ Go “behind” the flashy home page and click on particular sites (e.g., The X) for additional information.

Enchanted Learning

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/Home.html>

- Ⓢ Jeananda Col, Enchanted Learning Software
- ⓕ Colourful directory of school topics and activities • print-outs, quizzes, and free books to read • search engine at the bottom of the page
- Ⓣ Browse the topic boxes on the main page or click the list of topics on the right side for more information. Some resources are unavailable unless you pay a subscription fee.

KidSpace (Canadian Space Agency)

<http://www.space.gc.ca/asc/eng/kidspace/kidspace.asp>

- Ⓢ Canadian Space Agency
- ⓕ Cosmic Questions answered by experts (e.g., Julie Payette) • Space Games (e.g., build the robotic arm) • Your Creations (student art and writing) • Photos and Space Camps • Funny Stuff (songs and jokes) • Experiments • Links to Canadian and international space sites
- Ⓣ Teachers and students will appreciate the many activities in the Experiments section.

Kids' Stuff

<http://www.cln.org/kids/>

- Ⓢ Community Online Network, Open School B.C. (British Columbia)
- ⓕ Activity Centres for younger and older kids • children’s software for downloading • colouring books jokes, games, puzzles, stories and songs • post office (electronic postcards) • Publish Your Creative Work Online Theme Page of links.
- Ⓣ Click Kids Help for advice about Internet safety.

Scholastic Kids Fun Online

<http://www.scholastic.com/kids/index.htm>

- Ⓢ Scholastic Press
- ⓕ Games and contests • Book Central (authors and ordering books) • Homework Hub (research tips and tools, writing and organizing strategies, Info Central (with reference material)
- Ⓣ Homework Hub provides varied resources to help you writing and research: The Research Bot has a test of your research skills and links to tools and resources to begin research; Info Central has an article about plagiarism; The Organizer gives you printouts, calendars, study tips, note-taking strategies and a sample organizational outline. Note that this site also sells downloaded games, books, and other products.

ThinkQuest Library

<http://www.thinkquest.org/library/index.html>

- Ⓢ Oracle Education Foundation
- ⓕ “A free educational resource featuring 5,500+ websites created by students around the world as part of a competition” • search engine and a subject directory
- Ⓣ Use the Search the Library feature to find specific links for your topic (e.g., “Da Vinci” or “weather”).

TVOntario Kids

<http://www.tvokids.com/>

- Ⓢ TVO (Ontario Educational Communications Authority)
- ⓕ Games • information regarding TVO television programs and contests • current news summaries • Milton’s Help Phone • Information Station
- Ⓣ In Information Station, click Behind the Web (to learn how to surf the web with hero Kid Cursor) and Links (for TV show links and Cool Websites).

WebGenies (Web Page Designer)

<http://www.webgenies.co.uk/indexnoflash.htm>

- Ⓢ WebGenies.
- ⓕ Web design lessons, projects, resources for kids five years and up • sections include: Start Designing, Html Basics, Adding Pictures, Animation and Sounds Top Tips, Web Careers, Glossary, Latest Web News, and Fun and Games
- Ⓣ On the right frame, click Top Tips for ten keys to creating a great site. In the middle frame, click Quick Lessons for a set of web design instructions from start to finish. Also in the middle frame, click FAQs for resources to make and upload a personal website.

Yahooligans Calendars

http://yahooligans.yahoo.com/Around_the_World/Calendars/

- Ⓢ Yahoo! Inc.
- ⓕ Personal, historical, and multicultural calendars to study or make
- Ⓣ Multicultural Calendar presents a list of links about holidays and festivals from around the world. You can search by month, holiday, country, and author. Submit your own entry and become an author.

Searching the Internet: Choosing Keywords

CHOOSING KEYWORDS

1. Use unique words

- tigers (too general)
- Bengal tigers (more specific)

2. Multi-step process

- do your initial search
- scan the first couple of pages of results for relevancy
- revise your search

3. Narrow your search

- if keywords produce too much information, revise your search by adding another key word, e.g., Bengal tigers habitat

4. Upper and lower case

- Java (coffee/island)
- JAVA (programming language)

5. Initial caps for proper names

- Person - Celine Dion
- Geographic - United Arab Emirates
- Title - Merchant of Venice

6. Check spelling (if no results found)

- Note: American spelling -
centre vs. center
labour vs. labor
theatre vs. theater