FINDING MATERIAL IN THE REFERENCE COLLECTION

Why look for material in the reference collection? Why start your research here? There are several good reasons:

- To gain an overview or historical background on your subject;
- To get suggestions for further reading, especially classic works on your subject;
- To get ideas on choosing a topic, or broadening or narrowing your topic.

The specialized encyclopedias and other reference books listed below may be of help to you. They all contain articles on language development and acquisition, literacy, reading or disabilities related to learning. You can access all of the online resources by starting at the library home page.

Mental Measurements Yearbook, 1938--. REF BF 431 .M435. (reviews tests on different subjects, including reading)
Salem Health: Psychology and Mental Health REF BF 636 .P86 2010 vols 1-5 Salem Reference Shelf
Routledge Encyclopedia of Second Language Acquisition, 2013. REF P 118.2 .R677
Encyclopedia of Disability, 2006 Online under GVRL
Encyclopedia of Language and Education, 2008. Online under GVRL
Gale Virtual Reference Library
FINDING MATERIAL IN THE CATALOG

Kelly Library belongs to a consortium of libraries known as HAL (Holston Associated Libraries), and has a catalog that contains the holdings of its four members (E & H, King College, Washington County Public Library and Tazewell County Public Library). Your valid student ID will let you borrow books from any of these libraries. Besides containing the holdings of four libraries, the catalog has other powerful features, such as many ways to search and the ability to limit your search. Look at the example on the following page.

The screen shot below shows a record found by doing a subject search (language acquisition--research). When you click on the item title, it will display typical bibliographical information (author, title, place of publication, publisher and date). Also, please note there are more subject headings toward the bottom of each full record, and that they are links.

Here is a sampling of subject headings you might find useful. (Remember, it's just a sample.)

- Books and reading
- Children—language
- Composition
- Language acquisition
- Language acquisition—parent participation
- Language and languages—study and teaching
- Language arts
- Language transfer
- Oral communication
- Oral reading
- Reading (kindergarten)
- Reading (elementary)
- Reading (middle school)
- Reading (secondary school)
- Reading—ability testing
- Reading—language experience approach
- Reading—phonetic method
- Reading—physiological aspects
- Reading—research
- Reading—study and teaching
- Reading, psychology of
- Reading comprehension
- Reading disability
- Reading readiness
- Rhetoric—study and teaching
- Written communication
Note: these are just suggestions—there are many more related headings. Also, when you look in the catalog, you may find that the HAL libraries do not own many (or any) books under some of these headings. Or perhaps you are looking for more recent information. World Catalog can help you identify titles, and interlibrary loan can help you obtain them. There will be more discussion of this later.

FINDING MATERIAL BY USING DATABASES

Kelly Library subscribes to several indexes that will be useful in helping you locate material for research projects in this class. All of them are available through the A–Z Databases page. A good place to start would be the EBSCO databases. They are partially full-text and include both popular and scholarly periodicals in a wide variety of academic fields. Try searching Academic Search Complete, Education Research Complete, Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection, and Teacher Reference Center. The user interfaces are very similar, so if you can use one EBSCO database, you shouldn’t have problems with the others. See the example below, a search on “written communication” OR composition OR “written language” OR writing OR “language arts.” AND English AND (disabilities OR delays). If the article is full-text, you will see the full-text link to click. If an article is not full-text: you’ll need to do a title search in the E-Journals by Title list to see if Kelly Library owns it or has electronic access to it. If not, you may want to use the interlibrary loan service to get a copy of the article.

ERIC is produced by the U.S Dept. of Education, and indexes education journals as well as ERIC documents (items that are not published in journals) and other gray literature. ERIC is a mix of both full-text and citations only. It indexes scholarly journals, reports, “gray literature,” and dissertations. Kelly Library has versions from two publishers: the Dept. of Education version, and one published by ProQuest. The screen shots below are from a search on “oral language” AND “language acquisition” in ProQuest.
What If the Article Is Not Full-Text in the Database?

What do you do if an article in the database you’re looking at is not full-text? Click the E-Journals by Title list to see if it might be full-text somewhere else. For example, out of sight in the ERIC screenshot, there is an article “Supporting Children’s Oral Language Development in the Preschool Classroom” in the July 2016 issue of Early Childhood Education Journal. The E-Journal list shows you it is full-text in both Education Research Complete and Academic Search Complete. Click on the link to one of those databases, and locate the article.
Another important source of journal articles is **JSTOR**, a full-text database of scholarly journals that is complete from volume 1, issue 1 for each periodical title. There is a time lag of two to five years. Some scholarly books are included in this database too. See the following search on. ("written communication " OR "written expression") AND “middle school.”

![JSTOR Advanced Search screenshot](image)

**358 Search Results**

**JOURNAL ARTICLE**

**Intensive Instruction to improve Writing for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders**

Margo A. Mastropieri, Thomas E. Scruggs

Behavioral Disorders, Vol. 40, No. 1, Special Issue—Improving the Writing Skills of Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders using Self-Regulated Strategy Development (November 2014), pp. 75-83

**Topics:** Writing instruction, Behavioral disorders, Writing, Mood disorders, Writing tests, Writing skills, Special needs students, Writing teachers, Special education
If you are not sure what the difference is between peer-reviewed / refereed / scholarly journals and popular magazines, take a look at this web site developed by Skidmore College. There are other ways to determine if a periodical is scholarly. One way is to check the "scholarly (peer-reviewed) journals" box on the Education Research Complete search screen to limit your results to academic-oriented articles. Another way is to look up a periodical title in Ulrich’s Periodicals Directory database. It will tell you if your title is peer-reviewed (sometimes listed as "refereed") or not. Also, almost all of the articles in JSTOR would be considered scholarly /peer-reviewed. You can speak with Dr. Crickmer or a librarian for advice, too.

ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Global is a database with over a million full-text dissertations and theses, many of them full-text.

World Catalog, an index of books and other monograph-type materials, is a good way to identify materials if the library does not own many materials on your topic. See the example from WC below. This database, just as the other ones we have looked at so far, offers many limiting options.
Records found: 51

1. **Evidence-based practices and programs for early childhood care and education**
   - Author: Groark, Christina J.
   - Document: English : Book
   - Libraries Worldwide: 639
   - More Like This: Search for versions with same title and author | Advanced options... | See more details for locating this item

2. **Handbook of reading interventions**
   - Author: O'Connor, Rollanda E. ; Vadas, Patricia F.
   - Document: English : Book
   - Libraries Worldwide: 478
   - More Like This: Search for versions with same title and author | Advanced options... | See more details for locating this item

3. **Emergent literacy and language development: promoting learning in early childhood**
   - Author: Rhyner, Paula M.
   - Publication: New York : Guilford Press, 2009
   - Document: English : Book | Internet Resource
   - Libraries Worldwide: 354
   - More Like This: Search for versions with same title and author | Advanced options... | See more details for locating this item

4. **Inclusive literacy lessons for early childhood**
   - Author: Schiller, Pamela Byrne.; Willis, Clarissa
   - Publication: Beltsville, Md. : Gryphon House, 2008
   - Document: English : Book | Internet Resource
   - Libraries Worldwide: 305
   - More Like This: Search for versions with same title and author | Advanced options... | See more details for locating this item
**E&H OneSearch**

Searches all of the library’s databases simultaneously (with a few exceptions). It also includes the library catalog. You may prefer to search this way, or each database individually. See the following search on “oral language acquisition” AND “English speakers.” Note how the user interface looks like the other EBSCO databases.

---

**INTERNET RESOURCES**

Some sites you might find useful are the International Literacy Association site (https://www.literacyworldwide.org/), the U.S. Dept. of Education What Works Clearinghouse (https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/FWW/Index), Reading Rockets (www.readingrockets.org). The librarians in Kelly Library have compiled some web resources in the **subject resources** pages. You might want to try Google Scholar (scholar.google.com). Of course, apply good judgment and be critical of web sites that are
not signed or attributed to an organization, reach undocumented conclusions, have lots of typographical errors, or have not been updated for years.

REMOTE ACCESS

You can access these databases from home. To find directions on how to do this, go to the library home page (www.library.ehc.edu) and under the Research heading, click on Off-Campus Connections. Or, ask a reference librarian for directions.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Although Kelly Library has many books, periodicals and full-text electronic resources, you will probably find citations to materials not owned by Kelly Library. Our staff will try to obtain these items for you through interlibrary loan. The ordering system, ILLiad, is electronic; you will have to complete a one-time registration before you can request articles. If you need help with this, please speak with a library staff member. Also, please check the catalog for books and the E Journals by Title list for online journal access to make sure Kelly Library does not own the material. Generally, you should allow 5 to 7 working days to receive material requested through interlibrary loan, so plan accordingly. There is no charge for the first fifty requests per academic year; after that, there is a $5 minimum (or whatever the lending library charges us).

DOCUMENTATION

Whenever you quote an author’s exact words or use his or her unique ideas, you must credit that source to avoid plagiarism. Academic fields have various documentation systems to credit the authors. Kelly Library has the MLA Handbook, Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations (Turabian), Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, APA Style Guide to Electronic References and The Chicago Manual of Style on permanent reserve at the Circulation Desk. For this class, you will use the Publication Manual of the APA. Diana Hacker’s A Writer’s Reference (also on permanent reserve) has a good section on the APA style, too. If you click on the Research Tips link under the Research heading, you will seek links to the Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University and other helpful sites. You might want to take a look at APA Style.org (http://www.apastyle.org/apa-style-help.aspx) too.

Remember: If you need help using or locating any of the materials mentioned in this handout, please ask a reference librarian or circulation staff member for assistance. The librarians are: Jane Caldwell, Jody Hanshew, Janet Kirby, and Holly McCormick. The circulation staff members are: Adam Alley, Morgan Bitler, Kat Lilley, Melissa Phelps, and Courtney Sheets.

If that person cannot help you, he or she will direct you to someone who can. Librarians provide reference service 8am-7pm Monday-Thursday, 8am-5pm Friday.

www.library.ehc.edu
askalibrarian@ehc.edu
276.944.6208

https://www.facebook.com/KellyLibrary

EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE