



April 2008

What's in a name? Library media specialists are also teachers. As teacher librarians we teach the information process, understand the uses of technology, select and use a wide variety of materials, and work in partnership with classroom teachers using books, information and technology.

Your Library and the Web

When you're looking for web sites and materials about a certain subject, WebPath Express can help you find the information you need. Start by finding your library's catalog at www.ricat.net. Go to the catalog tab, and choose WebPath Express in the left-hand column to get lists of web sites and library materials about your subject.

The monthly theme shows you some subjects for this month – like Thanksgiving in November or Abraham Lincoln in February. You can just click the picture, or **Find It** underneath, to see the lists of websites and library materials.

Find

November

Careers **Homework Helpers** **Leadership**

The Spotlight

Challenge Your Brain

Since WebPath Express returns only websites that contain all of the words you typed in, widening your search can be as simple as deleting some of those words. **By default, WebPath Express performs a Boolean AND search on the words entered.** If you are not finding what you want, use a shorter or more general term. For example, use marsupials instead of bandicoot. You can also try adding similar or related words with OR between them. For example, enter orbits OR planets OR neptune instead of just neptune. If you have entered a phrase, make sure to enclose the phrase in quotation marks: for example, "Mongolian wild horses".

The Spotlight shows a topic that everyone should enjoy. To go to one of the websites, click its link beneath the picture.

Neuroscience For Kids

Brain Games

Many of the games listed below have separate pages... just click on the small picture of the game to open up a new page to play.

Browse through our web links "file cabinet", or search visually

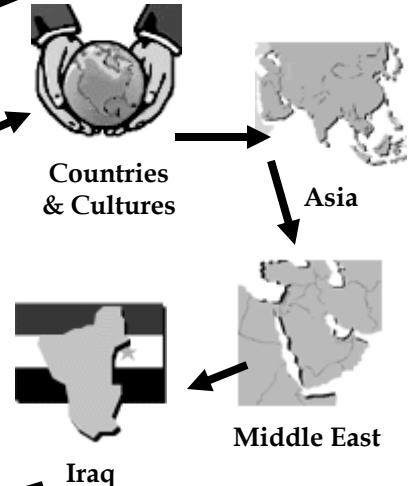
The school library media center - where information is available in a wide variety of formats, both print and electronic; where materials and activities are coordinated with classroom assignments; and **where students learn information skills that will prepare them to live and work in the 21st century.**

Browse

Or search visually

Click on the topic that you want to explore

The screenshot shows a web interface with a search bar and three tabs: 'Search', 'Browse', and 'Visual Search'. The 'Browse' tab is active, displaying a list of subjects: Arts, Education, Foreign Languages, Health & Fitness, Language Arts & Communications, Mathematics, Reference Materials, Religion, Science, Social Studies, Technology, and People & Biographies. A box highlights the 'Social Studies' folder, which is expanded to show 'Countries & Cultures', 'Asia', and 'Middle East'. The 'Middle East' folder is further expanded to show 'Iraq', 'History', 'Baghdad (Iraq)', 'Iraq', and 'Tigris River'.



Drill down inside the folders until you get to the subject that you want to explore

Link to books on the same topic in your library's collection.

The screenshot shows search results for 'Iraq'. At the top, there are tabs for 'Web Sites' and 'Titles', and a 'Printable' button. Below this, there are filters for 'Grade Level' with options for 'K-5' and '6-8'. The main content area features a 'TFK Timeline : Iraq' section with a detailed paragraph about Mesopotamian history. Below the paragraph, it lists the 'Topic: Mesopotamia' and a 'URL: http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/news/story/0,6260,362263,00.html'. There is an 'Add to this List' button. Below the timeline, there is a section for 'Sunni Islam in Iraq' with another paragraph and a 'URL: http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/iraq/religion-sunni'.

Find web sites appropriate for your students

Make a bibliography

Each web site listed has an annotation, a direct link to the site, and the complete URL.

The screenshot shows the 'TIME FOR KIDS news' website. It features a search bar with 'Search TFK' and a 'go' button. Below the search bar are tabs for 'kids', 'teachers', and 'parents'. The main content area includes a 'WORLD NEWS' section dated 'March 21, 2003' with the headline 'TFK Timeline: Iraq' and a sub-headline 'Read about the major milestones in this Middle Eastern country's history'. There is a 'print this story' link. Below this, there is a 'This Week's News' section with a link to 'Check out the latest TFK headlines' and a 'Behind the Bylines' section with a link to 'Get the inside scoop on...'. On the right side, there is an 'America at War' section with a 'click here' link.



www.rilink.org

RILINK is a cooperative effort by Rhode Island school libraries to share their resources through an interactive, web-based catalog of library materials. RILINK serves over 34% of Rhode Island public school students, providing access to more than 800,000 books and other materials in member libraries.

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